WEIRD ADVENTURES ON OTHER WORLDS—THE UNIVERSE OF THE FUTURE
PLANET
COMICS
10¢
NOV.
No. 21
REEF RYAN
AND PRINCESS VARA
BATTLE NEPTUNE'S MERCILESS
SLAVER-HORDES IN
"THE GREEN LEGIONS
OF XALAN"
MARS—GOD OF WAR
AURO—LORD OF JUPITER
THE STAR PIRATE
NEW, THRILLING FUTURE-FACT ARTICLE
"WILL THE INSECTS
CONQUER THE WORLD?"

DON'T MISS Glory Forbes VIGILANTE in RANGERS COMICS

The VIGILANTE SPIRIT OF THE ROARING OLD WEST COMES TO LIFE AS ALERT AMERICA BATTLES AXIS LAWLESSNESS IN DEFENSE OF OUR LIVES, OUR HERITAGE, OUR SACRED HONOR... **GLORY FORBES**, IN A THRILLING CAREER OF AMAZING, ACTION-PACKED ADVENTURE, PROVES THAT WITS AND COURAGE CAN DEFEAT THE MOST RUTHLESS ENEMY!

Also

THE PHANTOM FALCONS

PVT. ELMER PIPPIN

RANGERS OF FREEDOM

AND MANY OTHERS

IN RANGERS COMICS

10¢ AT ALL NEWSSTANDS!

DRUNK WITH HIS SUCCESS SO FAR, YAKI SU HATCHES AN ALMOST UNBELIEVABLE PLOT.
LISTEN, TOKO. I WILL HAVE FORBES DESIGN BOMBERS FOR US! WE SHANGHAI HIM AND DRUG HIM. HE WILL OBEY US OR WE KILL HIS DAUGHTER!

A FICTION HOUSE MAGAZINE

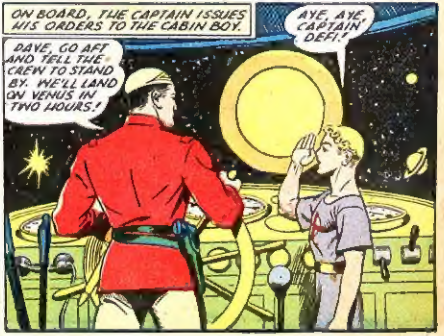
PLANET COMICS, No. 21, Nov., 1942. Published bi-monthly by Love Romances Pub. Co., Inc., 461 8th Ave., N. Y. C. Thurman T. Scott, Pres.; Larabee Cunningham, Editor; Gene Fawcette, Art Director. Re-entered as second-class matter July 8, 1940, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y. under the Act of March 3, 1879. Contents copyrighted, 1942, by Love Romances Pub. Co., Inc. Yearly subscription in U. S. $.60; Foreign $.80. Single copies 10¢ in U. S. For advertising rates: Wm. A. Delaney, Inc., 9 Rockefeller Plaza, N. Y. Printed in U.S.A.

THE NEXT ISSUE OF PLANET COMICS (No. 22, JAN.) WILL BE ON SALE AT YOUR NEWSSTAND NOV. 10th.

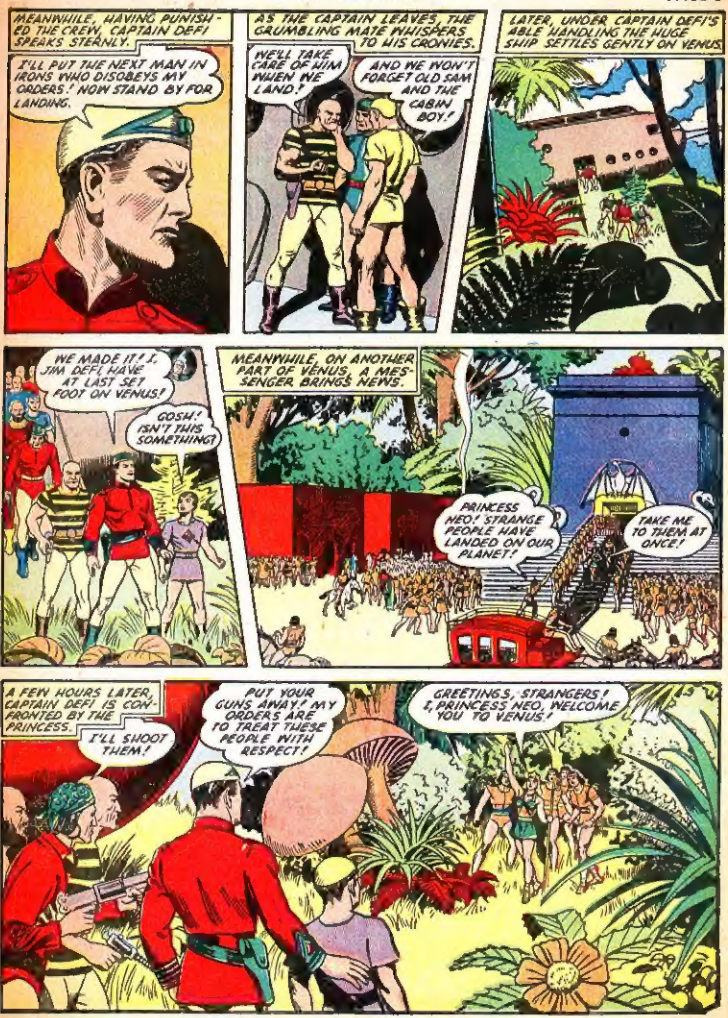
MARS

GOD OF WAR

BY ROSS GALLUN


ON BOARD, THE CAPTAIN ISSUES HIS ORDERS TO THE CABIN BOY.
DAVE, GO AFT AND TELL THE CREW TO STAND BY. WE'LL LAND ON VENUS IN TWO HOURS!
AYE, AYE CAPTAIN DEF!

IN THE CREW'S QUARTERS.
CAPTAIN DEFI'S ORDERS ARE TO STAND BY. WE LAND ON VENUS IN TWO HOURS!
THE CABIN BOY WITH MORE ORDERS!
I'M SICK OF TAKING ORDERS FROM OUR CRAZY CAPTAIN! ONCE WE STEP OFF THIS SHIP WE'RE FREE MEN!
YOU'VE BEEN DRINKING! I'M GOING TO REPORT THIS VIOLATION TO CAPTAIN DEFI!
I DON'T THINK YOU WILL, YOU BRAT!
THIS WILL TEACH YOU TO KEEP YOUR MOUTH CLOSED!
ONE MEMBER OF THE CREW CONFRONTS THE MATE.
LEAVE THE LAD ALONE!
TAKE THAT OLD BUZZARD AWAY BEFORE I SNAP HIS NECK!
LET GO OF ME!
SUDDENLY, THE CAPTAIN ENTERS.
STOP! THIS IS MUTINY!
I'LL TEACH YOU TO KEEP YOUR HANDS OFF DAVE!
UNSEEN, MARS, GOD OF WAR SLIPS INTO THE SHIP.
DISSENSION AMONG EARTHMEN WHO SEEK TO EXPLORE VENUS I'LL TAKE A HAND HERE!


MEANWHILE, HAVING PUNISHED THE CREW, CAPTAIN DEFI SPEAKS STERNLY.
I'LL PUT THE NEXT MAN IN IRONS WHO DISOBEYS MY ORDERS! NOW STAND BY FOR LANDING.
AS THE CAPTAIN LEAVES, THE GRUMBLING MATE WHISPERS TO HIS CRONIES.
WE'LL TAKE CARE OF HIM WHEN WE LAND!
AND WE WON'T FORGET OLD SAM AND THE CABIN BOY!
LATER, UNDER CAPTAIN DEFI'S ABLE HANDLING THE HUGE SHIP SETTLES GENTLY ON VENUS.
WE MADE IT! I, JIM DEFI, HAVE AT LAST SET FOOT ON VENUS!
GOSH! ISN'T THIS SOMETHING?
MEANWHILE, ON ANOTHER PART OF VENUS, A MESSENGER BRINGS NEWS.
PRINCESS NEO! STRANGE PEOPLE HAVE LANDED ON OUR PLANET!
TAKE ME TO THEM AT ONCE!
A FEW HOURS LATER, CAPTAIN DEFI IS CONFRONTED BY THE PRINCESS.
I'LL SHOOT THEM!
PUT YOUR GUNS AWAY! MY ORDERS ARE TO TREAT THESE PEOPLE WITH RESPECT!
GREETINGS, STRANGERS! I, PRINCESS NEO, WELCOME YOU TO VENUS!

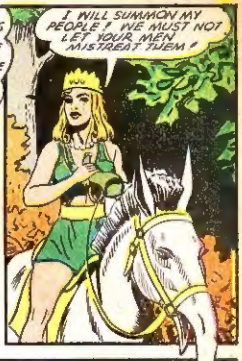
WE ARE EARTH-PEOPLE! FOR MANY YEARS I HAVE BEEN TRYING TO REACH VENUS. AT LAST I HAVE SUCCEEDED!
EARTHPEOPLE, WE WILL DO ALL IN OUR POWER TO HELP YOU!
SUDDENLY, A SCREAM OF TERROR INTERRUPTS THE MEETING!
I'LL TAKE THESE EARRINGS!
EEEEEH!
WHAT?
TURNING QUICKLY, THE CAPTAIN SMASHES AT THE OFFENDER.
MY ORDERS WERE NOT TO MOLEST THESE PEOPLE!
UGH!
THIS WILL TEACH YOU TO RESPECT THEM!
PRINCESS NEO STEPS IN BETWEEN THEM.
ENOUGH!.. HE WON'T DO IT AGAIN!
I'M SORRY IF HE FRIGHTENED HER. HERE ARE THE EARRINGS!
BRING MY LANTHIS! COME, CAPTAIN! I WILL SHOW YOU THROUGH OUR JUNGLE!
AS THE PRINCESS AND THE CAPTAIN RIDE OFF, THE MATE CALL HIS HENCHMEN TOGETHER
NOW'S OUR CHANCE, MEN! THESE PEOPLE HAVE PLENTY OF PRECIOUS STONES. WE'LL HELP OURSELVES!

LURKING IN THE BACKGROUND, MARS, GOD OF WAR, SEES HIS OPPORTUNITY . . .
PETTY THIEVES I'LL TAKE CHARGE AND INSTILL THEM WITH THE KILLERS LUST.
HE ENTERS THE BODY OF THE MATE.
THE VENUSIANS WILL BE OUR SLAVES ! I'LL RULE HERE !
THAT KID AND OLD SAM ARE THE CAPTAIN'S PETS DRIVE THEM INTO THE JUNGLE !
SNATCHING UP A CLUB THE CRUEL FIEND STRIKES A NATIVE.
NOW WE'LL TEACH THE NATIVES WHO'S MASTER HERE !
THIS IS THE WAY TO DO IT ! NOW GO AND HELP YOURSELVES !
ENCOURAGED BY THE MATE, THE CREW FALL UPON THE TRUSTING NATIVES.
TAKE WHAT YOU WANT !
LOOK AT THIS HAUL !
PASS OVER YOUR JEWELS OR I'LL SCATTER YOUR BRAINS ALL OVER VENUS !
OHH !

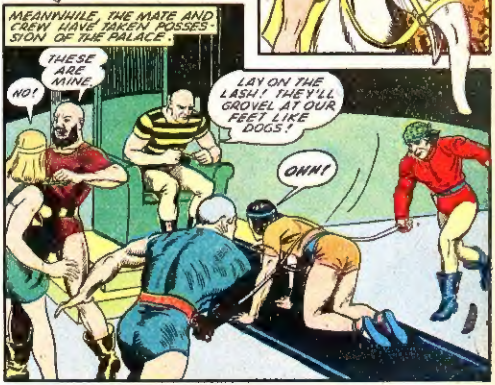
MEANWHILE, NEO GUIDES DEFI THROUGH HER KINGDOM.
THAT'S A GLAK! HE'S AS HARMLESS AS MOONLIGHT BUT WATCH OUT, IF YOU EVER MEET A PIGGA!
BIG BRUTE, ISN'T HE? I'D LIKE TO SEE WHAT A PIGGA LOOKS LIKE!
WHILE IN ANOTHER PART OF THE JUNGLE, DAVE AND THE OLD MARINER PAUSE FOR A MOMENT..
DON'T DRINK TOO MUCH OF THAT JUICE, IT MAY BE POISON!
SUDDENLY, A HUGE PIGGA ATTACKS THEM..
WHAT? HELP! HELP!
UGHHH!
ATTRACTED BY THE SCREAMS, DEFI AND NEO RIDE TO THE SCENE.
HELP!
IT'S DAVE!
A PIGGA IS AFTER HIM!
WITHOUT HESITATION, JIM HURLS HIMSELF AT THE BRUTE!
CAPTAIN! LOOK OUT!
I'LL STOP HIM!
ASTRIDE THE BEAST, JIM STABS AGAIN AND AGAIN, SEARCHING FOR A VITAL SPOT!
BUT THE PIGGA ROLLS OVER, PINNING HIM TO THE GROUND.
I'M COMING!
UFF!

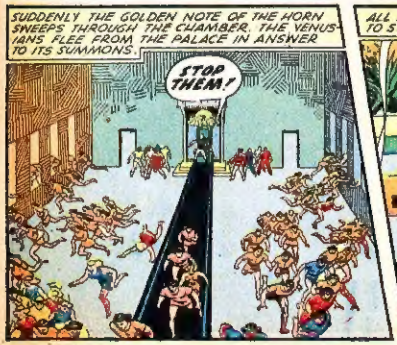
THE VITAL SPOT IS BELOW THE EAR!

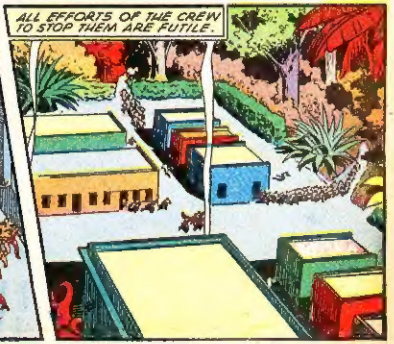
CAPTAIN! YOU SAVED US THE MATE DROVE US INTO THE JUNGLE AND IS ENSLAVING THE NATIVES.
I WAS POWERLESS TO MOVE! THE JUICE OF THAT NUT PARALYZED ME!
IT IS A STRONG DRUG BUT THE VENUSIANS ARE IMMUNE TO ITS POWER!


I WILL SUMMON MY PEOPLE! WE MUST NOT LET YOUR MEN MISTREAT THEM!

LIFTING A HORN TO HER LIPS, THE PRINCESS SOUNDS A LONG, CLEAR NOTE.
UOO


MEANWHILE, THE MATE AND CREW HAVE TAKEN POSSESSION OF THE PALACE.
THESE ARE MINE.
NO!
LAY ON THE LASH! THEY'LL GROVEL AT OUR FEET LIKE DOGS!
OHH!


SUDDENLY THE GOLDEN NOTE OF THE HORN SWEEPS THROUGH THE CHAMBER. THE VENUSIANS FLEE FROM THE PALACE IN ANSWER TO ITS SUMMONS.
STOP THEM!


ALL EFFORTS OF THE CREW TO STOP THEM ARE FUTILE.

RUNNING FRANTICALLY, THE VENUSIANS REACH THE PLACE...
PRINCESS! SAVE US!
THE EARTH-PEOPLE HAVE MADE US SLAVES!
THEY HEARD MY SUMMONS! HERE THEY COME!
CUTING A BRANCH FROM A TREE, CAPTAIN DEFI QUICKLY FASHIONS A BOW...
I WILL SHOW YOU HOW TO MAKE WEAPONS WITH WHICH TO FIGHT THEM!
LATER, ARMED WITH BOWS AND SPEARS, THE VENUSIANS SCREAM THEIR VENGEANCE.
TO THE PALACE!
WE'LL DRIVE THE DEVILS OUT!
WITH THE BRAVE CAPTAIN AT THEIR HEAD, THEY ADVANCE IN INDIAN FILE TOWARD THE VILLAGE.
THEY HAVE MODERN WEAPONS! WE MUST TAKE THEM BY SURPRISE.
DISREGARDING THE CAPTAIN'S WARNING FOR STEALTH, THE MOB SUDDENLY HURLS ITSELF AT THE EARTH PEOPLE.
KILL! KILL!
VENUSIANS WILL NOT BE SLAVES!
QUICKLY THEY OVERPOWER THE GUARDS AND RUSH INTO THE PALACE.
ONE OF THE GUARDS WARNS THE CREW...
THE VENUSIANS ARE ATTACKING!
WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THEM IN A HURRY! COME ON, GANG!
THEY'RE NOT GOING TO SPOIL THIS RACKET!
OUR GUNS WILL BLOW THEM OFF THE FACE OF VENUS

SEEING THE VENUSIANS ABOUT TO BE ANNIHILATED, JIM DEFI STEPS FORWARD

DON'T SHOOT! IT'LL BE MURDER!

KEEP YOUR HANDS UP! YOU'RE THE CAUSE OF THIS REBELLION!

THEIR LEADER CAPTURED, THE NATIVES RUSH BACK TO THE JUNGLE

YOU WON'T BE CAUSING ANY MORE TROUBLE!

YOU ARE MAD!

NOW, MEN, HOP TO IT! LOAD THE LOOT ON THE SPACE SHIP! WE'LL RETURN TO EARTH AND BE MILLIONAIRES!

MEANWHILE, IN THE JUNGLE DAVE HITS UPON A PLAN TO SAVE THE CAPTAIN

THAT DRUG YOU DRANK FROM THE NUT! I WONDER IF WE COULD TRICK THE CREW INTO DRINKING IT?

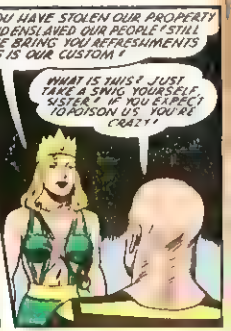
GOOD IDEA DAVE! I'LL HAVE MY SUBJECTS COLLECT THEM!

THE NUTS ARE QUICKLY GATHERED BY THE NATIVES

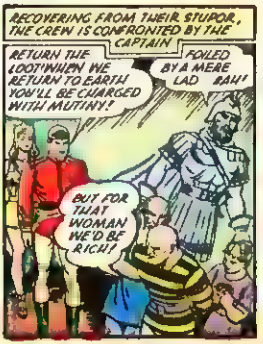
AND THE JUICE IS EMPTIED INTO HUGE URNS

LATER, RIDING BOLDLY AT THEIR HEAD, NEO LEADS HER SUBJECTS INTO THE VILLAGE!

MEANWHILE, FOLLOWING OUT THE TUE MATE'S ORDERS THE CREW LOAD THE SPACESHIP WITH THE LOOT
I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU A TREAT, YOU'LL BE THE FIRST MAN TO WALK THE PLANK 5 MILLION MILES ABOVE VENUS
ANOTHER OF YOUR TREACHEROUSH TRICKS!


YOU HAVE STOLEN OUR PROPERTY AND ENSLAVED OUR PEOPLE! STILL I'VE BRING YOU REFRESHMENTS AS IS OUR CUSTOM!
WHAT IS THIS? JUST TAKE A SWIG YOURSELF, SISTER! IF YOU EXPECT TO POISON US, YOU'RE CRAZY!

KNOWING HERSELF TO BE IMMUNE TO THE JUICE, NEO DRAINS THE CUP BEFORE HIS EYES
TO A BETTER UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN VENUS AND EARTH!


RECOVERING FROM THEIR STUPOR, THE CREW IS CONFRONTED BY THE CAPTAIN
RETURN THE LOOT! WHEN WE RETURN TO EARTH YOU'LL BE CHARGED WITH MUTINY!
FOILED BY A MERE LAD BAH!
BUT FOR THAT WOMAN WE'D BE RICH!

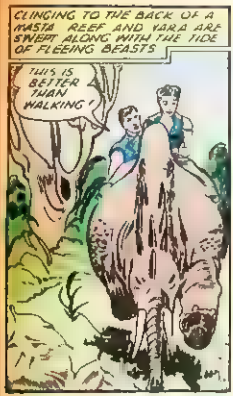
MARS, GOD OF WAR, PLANS NEW TERROR IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF **PLANET COMICS!**

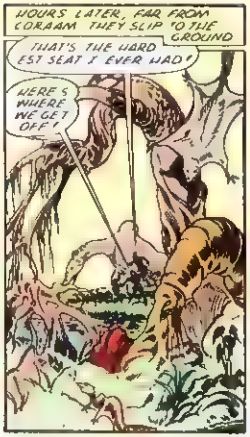
REEF RYAN

By HUGH FITZHUGH

REEF RYAN, EARTHMAN, AND YARA, SUDDENLY FIND THEMSELVES PRISONERS OF A STRANGE RACE PLACED ON AN AUCTION BLOCK. THEY AWAIT THEIR FATE AT THE HANDS OF THESE GROTESQUE BIDDERS OF NEPTUNE'S INNER WORLD.
NO LUCK TODAY, YARA! WE'D BETTER QUIT FOR THE DAY!
NOT YET. I PROMISED TO BRING HOME A PHOROS FOR THE BANQUET TOMORROW!
IN A VALLEY BORDERING CORRAM, REEF RYAN AND YARA, HUNT THE ELUSIVE PHOROS
SUDDENLY, A FLOCK OF PHOROS RISE FROM THE UNDERBRUSH AND FLY OVER THEIR HEADS
LOOK! THERE THEY ARE!

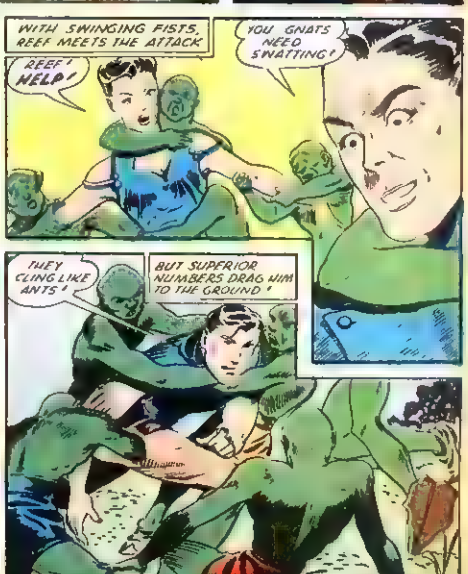
I'LL GET HIM!
DON'T MISS!
AS REEF FIRES, THE HUGE PHORO SCREAMS IN PAIN
GOOD SHOT! NOW TO HAVE A REAL FEAST!
I HOPE IT'S AS GOOD AS THE TURKEY WE HAVE ON EARTH!
SUDDENLY, THE DISTANT MOUNTAIN RUMBLES OMINOUSLY
LOOK! THE MOUNTAIN IS ERUPTING!
...AND HUGE RIVERS OF LAVA POUR DOWN THE SIDE OF THE CRATER, DRIVING ALL WILD-LIFE BEFORE IT.
WE'D BETTER GET OUT OF HERE IN A HURRY!
WE'LL BE CRUSHED BY THE ANIMALS IN THE LAVA DOESN'T ENGULF US!
LET'S TRY A HITCH-HIKE!


CLINGING TO THE BACK OF A MASTA REEF AND YARA ARE SWEPT ALONG WITH THE TIDE OF FLEEING BEASTS
THIS IS BETTER THAN WALKING!


HOURS LATER, FAR FROM CORAAM THEY SLIP TO THE GROUND
THAT'S THE HARDEST SEAT I EVER HAD!
HERE'S WHERE WE GET OFF!

THE WAY BACK TO CORAAM IS BLOCKED WE'LL HAVE TO CIRCLE THE MOUNTAIN
WE MUST HAVE COME A LONG WAY!

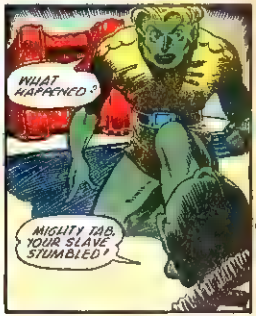
SUDDENLY A HORDE OF STRANGE PEOPLE HUR THEMSELVES UPON THE ADVENTURERS
WE'LL START NOW WHAT?
IT'S THE KALANITES!


WITH SWINGING FISTS REEF MEETS THE ATTACK
YOU GNATS NEED SMATTING!
REEF! HELP!
THEY CLING LIKE ANTS!
BUT SUPERIOR NUMBERS DRAG HIM TO THE GROUND!

SEVERAL HOURS LATER, REEF AND YARA ARE TAKEN BY THEIR CAPTORS TO THE STRANGE CITY CALLED XALAN
AND CONDUCTED TO A PLATFORM IN THE MAIN SQUARE
I WONDER WHAT THEY'RE GOING TO DO WITH US!
WE'LL FIND OUT, SOON!
LET GO OF ME!
THIS ONE IS FIRST!
LOOK!" A STRANGE WHITE GIRL! WHAT AM I BID?
THE TAB OF CURTHA SCREAMS
ONE THOUSAND RADS!
AND IS ANSWERED BY THE TAB OF XALAN.
FIVE THOUSAND RADS!
FIFTY THOUSAND!
AS THE TABS BID AGAINST EACH OTHER, A BARDA IN THE SERVICE OF THE TAB OF XALAN PLOTS TO BETRAY HIM!
I'LL PROVE TO THE TAB OF CURTHA THAT I'M LOYAL!

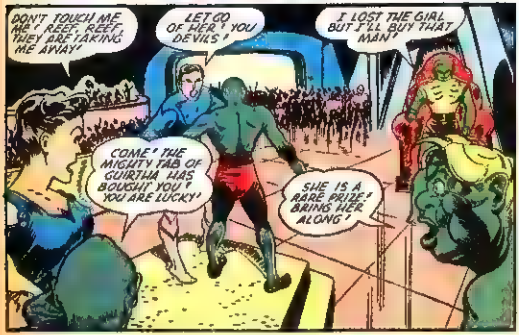
THIS WILL UPSET MY MASTER!

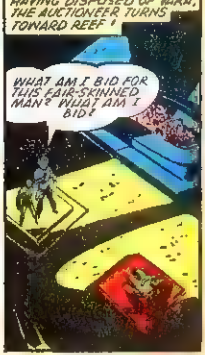
AS THE SLAVE FALLS, THE TAB OF XALAN IS HURLED FROM HIS THRONE.
OWWW!

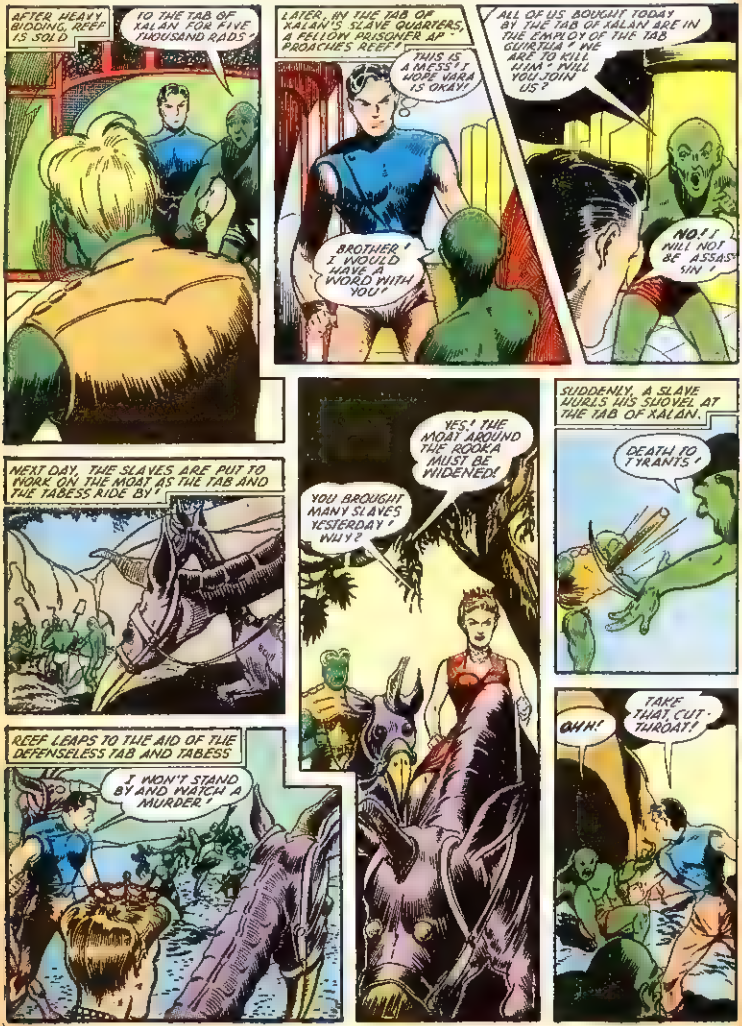

WHAT HAPPENED?
MIGHTY TAB, YOUR SLAVE STUMBLED!

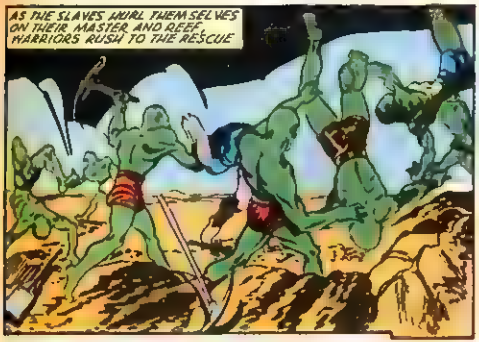
MEANWHILE, THE TAB OF GUIRTHA BIDS IN THE PRIZE
SOLD TO THE TAB OF GUIRTHA FOR FIFTY THOUSAND RADS!
SHE IS MINE!

THE TAB OF GUIRTHA TAUNTS HIS DEFEATED RIVAL
SO! I WON! THE GIRL BELONGS TO ME!
YOU WOULDN'T HAVE WON IF MY SLAVE HADN'T DROPPED MY THRONE!


DON'T TOUCH ME, ME, REEF, REEF! THEY ARE TAKING ME AWAY!
LET GO OF HER! YOU DEVILS!
I LOST THE GIRL BUT I'LL BUT THAT MAN!
COME! THE MIGHTY TAB OF GUIRTHA HAS BOUGHT YOU! YOU ARE LUCKY!
SHE IS A RARE PRIZE! BRING HER ALONG!


HAVING DISPOSED OF YARA, THE AUCTIONEER TURNS TOWARD REEF!
WHAT AM I BID FOR THIS FAIR-SKINNED MAN? WHAT AM I BID!


AFTER HEAVY BIDDING, REEF IS SOLD
TO THE TAB OF KALAN FOR FIVE THOUSAND RADS!
LATER, IN THE TAB OF KALAN'S SLAVE QUARTERS, A FELLOW PRISONER APPROACHES REEF.
THIS IS A MESS! I WONDER WARA IS OKAY!
BROTHER! I WOULD HAVE A WORD WITH YOU!
ALL OF US BOUGHT TODAY BY THE TAB OF KALAN ARE IN THE EMBOYO OF THE TAB GUIRTIA! WE ARE TO KILL HIM! WILL YOU JOIN US?
NO! I WILL NOT BE ASSASSIN!
NEXT DAY, THE SLAVES ARE PUT TO WORK ON THE MOAT AS THE TAB AND THE TABESS RIDE BY!
YES! THE MOAT AROUND THE ROOKA MUST BE WIDENED!
YOU BROUGHT MANY SLAVES YESTERDAY! WHY?
SUDDENLY, A SLAVE HURLS HIS SHOVEL AT THE TAB OF KALAN.
DEATH TO TYRANTS!
REEF LEAPS TO THE AID OF THE DEFENSELESS TAB AND TABESS
I WON'T STAND BY AND WATCH A MURDER!
OHH!
TAKE THAT CUT-THROAT!

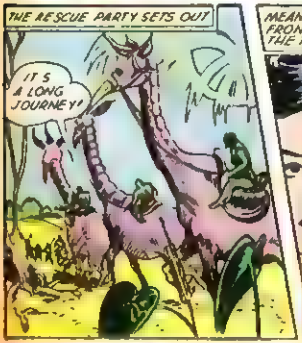

AS THE SLAVES WHIRL THEMSELVES ON THEIR MASTER AND REEF WARRIORS RUSH TO THE RESCUE

LATER, THE UPRISING HAVING BEEN QUELLED, REEF IS CALLED BEFORE THE TAB AND TABESS.
YOU HAVE SAVED OUR LIVES! FROM NOW ON, YOU ARE A FREE MAN.
THANK YOU, MY LORD!

DEAR BOY! IS THERE ANY OTHER FAVOR YOU DESIRE?
YES! I WANT TO FREE THE GIRL, VARA WHO WAS SOLD TO THE OTHER TAB!

A SMALL, DISTORTED BODY SLIPS BEHIND THEM AS THEY PLAN TO SAVE VARA!
IT WAS THE TAB OF GUIRTHA! I FOUND OUT THAT HE ALSO PLOTTED MY ASSASSINATION!
THEN YOU MUST ATTACK HIM AT ONCE!
THE SOONER THE BETTER!

LATER FROM ATOP THE ROCK, THE DEFORMED BARDA WATCHES THE WAR PARTY LEAVE
THEY GO TO THEIR DEATH! I'VE SPOKEN ON THE RADVINA TO THE TAB OF GUIRTHA. HE'LL TAKE CARE OF THEM!


THE RESCUE PARTY SETS OUT
IT'S A LONG JOURNEY!

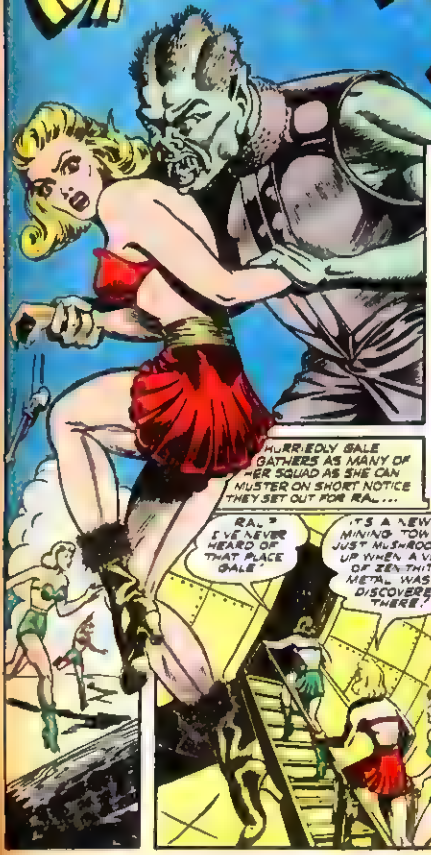
MEANWHILE, VARA IS CONFRONTED BY HER NEW MASTER, THE TAB OF GUIRTHA
SLAVE! MY PLOT TO KILL THE TAB OF HALAN FAILED BECAUSE OF YOUR FRIEND. I HAVE LEARNED THEY ARE ON THEIR WAY TO ATTACK ME! THEY WILL DIE!

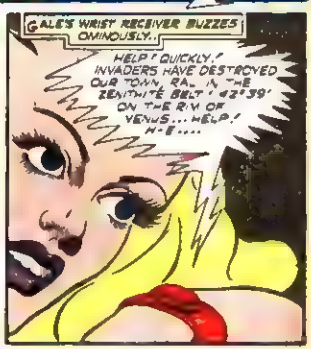
BAIT THE VARCON TRAP WITH THAT GIRL. I'LL PREPARE ANOTHER TRAP OF MY OWN!
YES, YOUR HIGHNESS!

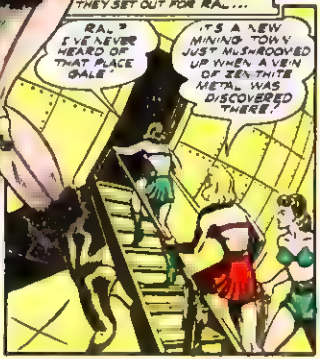
LATER, VARA IS TIED NEAR THE VARCON'S LAIR IN THE PATH OF THE ONCOMING XALANITES
I'LL NEVER SEE REEF AGAIN! OHH HERE COME THE VARCONS!
AS PLANNED BY THE TAB OF GUIRTHA, REEF AND THE XALANITES SEE THE VARCONS ATTACK VARA.
IT'S VARA! THOSE BIRDS ARE AFTER HER!
REEF LEAPS TO THE RESCUE.
VARA! I'LL SAVE YOU!
IT'S REEF!
ENGROSSED IN DRIVING OFF THE VARCONS, REEF AND THE XALANITES FAIL TO SEE THE GUIRTHITES CLOSING IN ON THEM!
SURPRISED, BUT UNDISMAYED, THEY MEET THE ATTACK!
IT'S THE GUIRTHITES! TAKE THAT, DOG!
OHH!
THE TAB OF GUIRTHA TREACHEROUSLY STABS THE TAB OF XALAN IN THE BACK!
AT LAST I'M RID OF YOU!
DEVIL!
I KILLED GUIRTHA! WE'VE GOT TO HELP OUR FRIEND!
HE'S MORTALLY WOUNDED!
AS THE GUIRTHITES FLEE, REEF AND VARA SPEAK TO THE DYING TAB OF XALAN.
PROMISE ME THAT YOU WILL RETURN TO XALAN AND HELP THE TABESS PROTECT HER KINGDOM!
WE PROMISE!
REEF RYAN AND VARA MEET NEW ADVENTURES IN THE KINGDOM OF XALAN IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF PLANET COMICS.

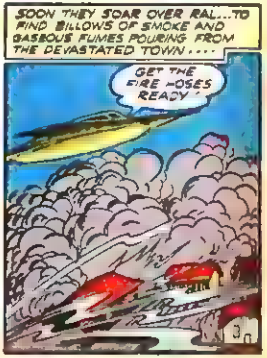
Gale Allen and her GIRL SQUADRON

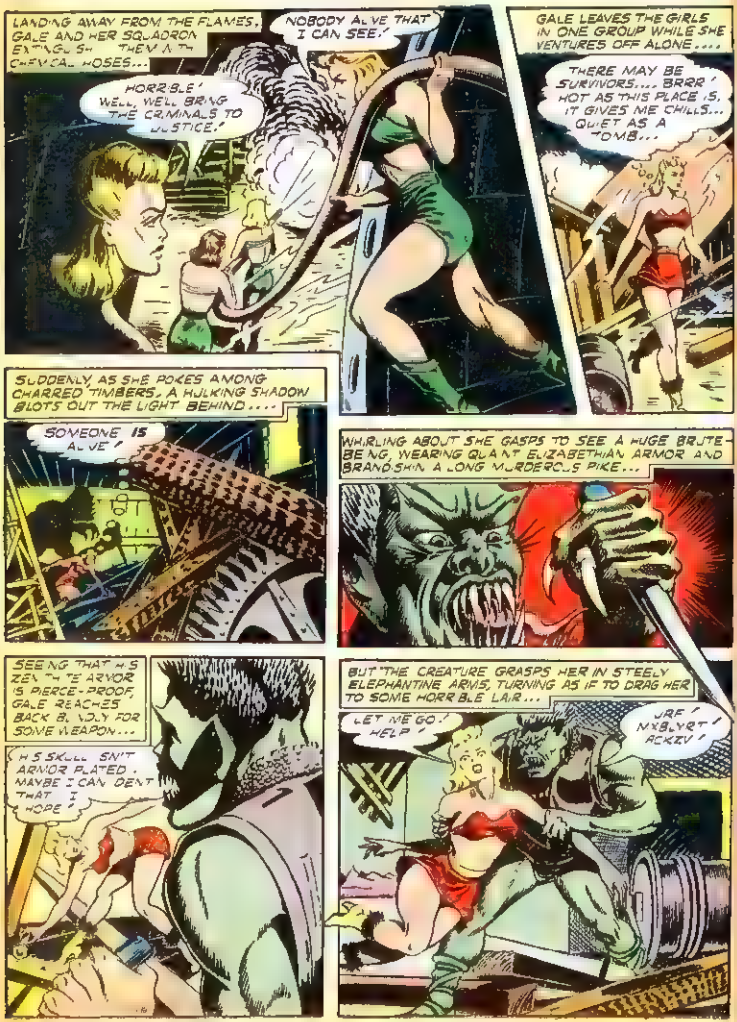
By David McAdc

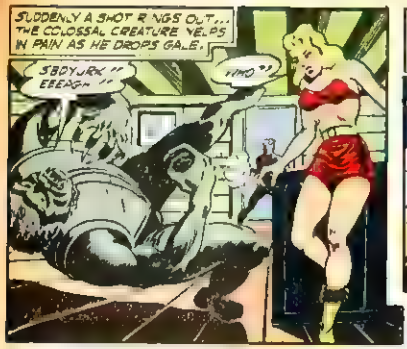



GALE'S WRIST RECEIVER BUZZES OMINOUSLY..
HELP! QUICKLY! INVADERS HAVE DESTROYED OUR TOWN, RAL, IN THE ZENITHITE BELT! 42°39' ON THE RIM OF VENUS... HELP! H-E....


HURRIEDLY GALE GATHERS AS MANY OF HER SQUAD AS SHE CAN MUSTER ON SHORT NOTICE THEY SET OUT FOR RAL....
RAL? I'VE NEVER HEARD OF THAT PLACE GALE!
IT'S A NEW MINING TOWN JUST MUSHROOMED UP WHEN A VEIN OF ZENITHITE METAL WAS DISCOVERED THERE!

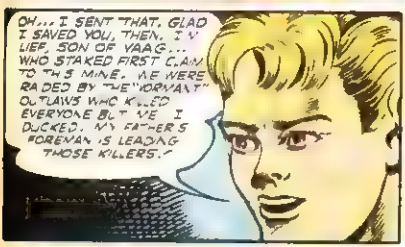

SOON THEY SOAR OVER RAL...TO FIND BILLOWS OF SMOKE AND GASEOUS FUMES POURING FROM THE DEVASTATED TOWN....
GET THE FIRE HOSES READY!

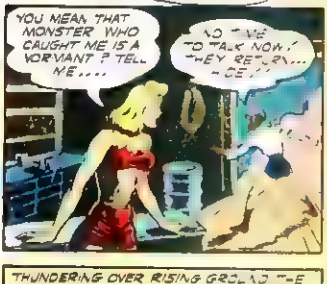

LANDING AWAY FROM THE FLAMES, GALE AND HER SQUADRON ENTANGLE THEM WITH CHEMICAL HOSES...
NOBODY ALIVE THAT I CAN SEE!
HORRIBLE! WELL, WELL BRING THE CRIMINALS TO JUSTICE!
GALE LEAVES THE GIRLS IN ONE GROUP WHILE SHE VENTURES OFF ALONE....
THERE MAY BE SURVIVORS.... BRRR! HOT AS THIS PLACE IS, IT GIVES ME CHILLS... QUIET AS A TOMB...
SUDDENLY AS SHE POKES AMONG CHARRED TIMBERS, A HULKING SHADOW BLOTS OUT THE LIGHT BEHIND....
SOMEONE IS ALIVE!
WHIRLING ABOUT SHE GASPS TO SEE A HUGE BRUTE-BEING, WEARING QUAINT ELIZABETHAN ARMOR AND BRANDISHING A LONG MURDEROUS PIKE...
SEEING THAT HIS ZEVITE ARMOR IS PIERCE-PROOF, GALE REACHES BACK BODILY FOR SOME WEAPON...
HIS SKULL SNIT ARMOR PLATED. MAYBE I CAN DENT THAT I HOPE!
BUT THE CREATURE GRASPS HER IN STEELY ELEPHANTINE ARMS, TURNING AS IF TO DRAG HER TO SOME HORRIBLE LAIR...
LET ME GO! HELP!
URF! NXBLYRT! ROKIV!

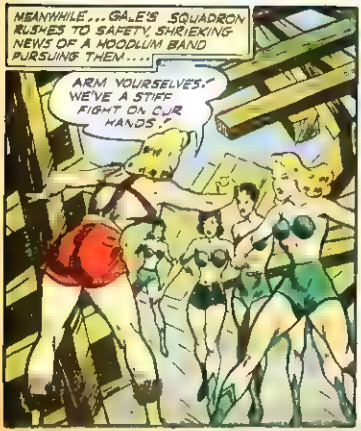

SUDDENLY A SHOT RINGS OUT... THE COLOSSAL CREATURE YELPS IN PAIN AS HE DROPS GALE.
SBDYURK!" EEEAGH...
WHO?"

CLUTCHING HIS SCALP, HE RACES TO THE ZEN-U-E WINE...
XXXKLVAR ZB..!

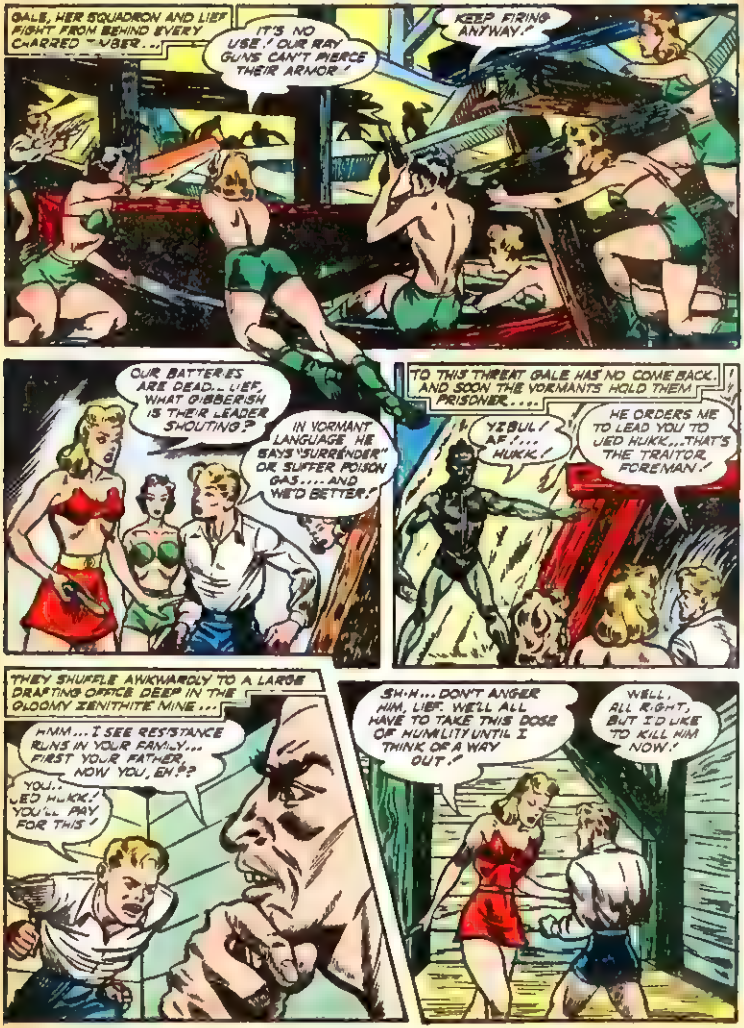
GALE LOOKS AROUND FOR HER BENEFACTOR AND...
HANDS...? I DO NOT TRY TO ESCAPE! WHO ARE YOU...? WHAT DO YOU WANT...?
I'M GALE ALLEN CAME N ANSWER TO AN S.O.S.!

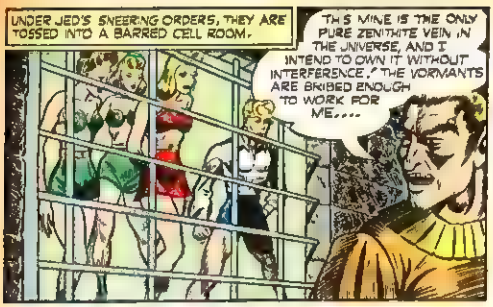

OH... I SENT THAT, GLAD I SAVED YOU, THEN. I'M LIEF, SON OF YAAG... WHO STAKED FIRST CLAIM TO THIS MINE. WE WERE RAIDED BY THE "VORMANT" OUTLAWS WHO KILLED EVERYONE BUT ME I DUCKED. MY FATHER'S FOREMAN IS LEADING THOSE KILLERS."


YOU MEAN THAT MONSTER WHO CAUGHT ME IS A VORMANT? TELL ME....
NO TIME TO TALK NOW! THEY RETURN... BE..!

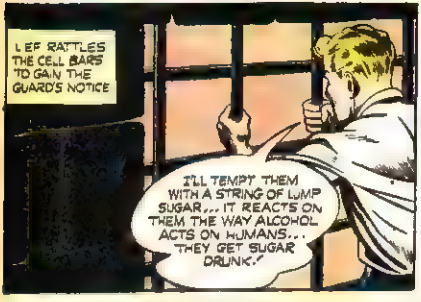

MEANWHILE... GALE'S SQUADRON RUSHES TO SAFETY, SHRIEKING NEWS OF A HOODLUM BAND PURSUING THEM...
ARM YOURSELVES." WE'VE A STIFF FIGHT ON OUR HANDS."

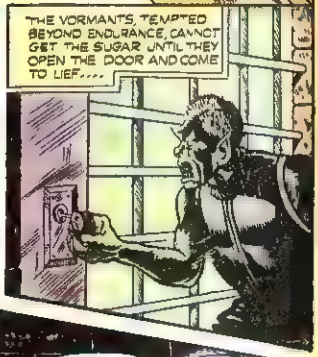
THUNDERING OVER RISING GROUND THE TERRIFYING VORMANTS COME INTO VIEW...


GALE, HER SQUADRON AND LIEF FIGHT FROM BEHIND EVERY CARRED "WABE"...
IT'S NO USE! OUR RAY GUNS CAN'T PIERCE THEIR ARMOR!
KEEP FIRING ANYWAY!"
OUR BATTERIES ARE DEAD... LIEF, WHAT GIBBERISH IS THEIR LEADER SHOUTING?"
IN VORMANT LANGUAGE HE SAYS "SURRENDER" OR SUFFER POISON GAS.... AND WE'D BETTER!"
TO THIS THREAT GALE HAS NO COME BACK, AND SOON THE VORMANTS HOLD THEM PRISONER....
YI BUL! AF!... HUKK!
HE ORDERS ME TO LEAD YOU TO JED HUKK... THAT'S THE TRAITOR FOREMAN!"
THEY SHUFFLE AWKWARDLY TO A LARGE DRAFTING OFFICE DEEP IN THE GLOOMY ZENITHITE MINE...
HMM... I SEE RESISTANCE RUNS IN YOUR FAMILY... FIRST YOUR FATHER, NOW YOU, EH?
YOU.. JED HUKK! YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS!
SH-H... DON'T ANGER HIM, LIEF. WE'LL ALL HAVE TO TAKE THIS DOSE OF HUMILITY UNTIL I THINK OF A WAY OUT."
WELL, ALL RIGHT, BUT I'D LIKE TO KILL HIM NOW!


UNDER JED'S SNEERING ORDERS, THEY ARE TOSSED INTO A BARRED CELL ROOM.
THIS MINE IS THE ONLY PURE ZENITHITE VEIN IN THE UNIVERSE, AND I INTEND TO OWN IT WITHOUT INTERFERENCE." THE VORMANTS ARE BRIBED ENOUGH TO WORK FOR ME....

TWO VORMANT GUARDS WATCH THE PRISONERS... BUT LATE THAT NIGHT...
THE GIRLS ARE ASLEEP. THEY'LL BE SAFER HERE FOR THE TIME BEING... LISTEN I KNOW HOW TO GET US OUT."
HOW?

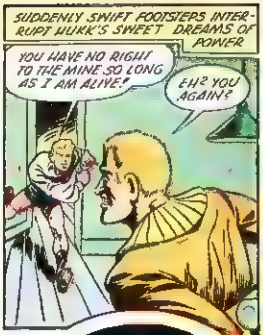

LEF RATTLES THE CELL BARS TO GAIN THE GUARD'S NOTICE
I'LL TEMPT THEM WITH A STRING OF LUMP SUGAR... IT REACTS ON THEM THE WAY ALCOHOL ACTS ON HUMANS... THEY GET SUGAR DRUNK."

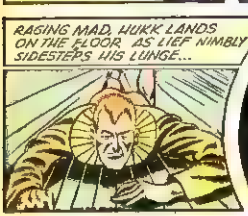

THE VORMANTS, TEMPTED BEYOND ENDURANCE, CANNOT GET THE SUGAR UNTIL THEY OPEN THE DOOR AND COME TO LIEF....

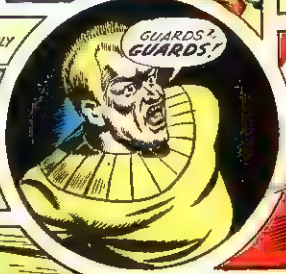
SOON BOTH GUARDS ROLL ON THE FLOOR IN NOISY ENJOYMENT OF THE SWEETS, COMPLETELY IGNORING GALE AND LEF WHO SNEAK OUT UNDER THEIR UGLY NOSES.

GET A LOAD OF SUGAR... THEN WE VISIT HUKK AGAIN."
R GHT"

MEANWHILE
HA! NEW ZENITHITE VEINS ON THIS MAP. NOW NO ONE CAN STOP ME FROM PEGGING THE PRICE HIGH AS I LIKE. ZENITHITE'S THE ONLY RAYPROOF TANK METAL, AND EVERY WARRING NATION MUST BUY IT FROM ME!


SUDDENLY SWIFT FOOTSTEPS INTERRUPT HUKK'S SWEET DREAMS OF POWER
YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO THE MINE SO LONG AS I AM ALIVE!
EH? YOU AGAIN?





THUS IS MISS SANTA CLAUS TO THE VORMANTS... I'M THROWING THEM ENOUGH SUGAR TO DROWN IN! WHEN THEY COME AROUND AGAIN, LIEF, YOU BRIBE THEM TO WORK FOR YOU!

THAT WON'T BE HARD. THANKS TO YOU, GALE, THE MINE IS IN THE PROPER HANDS
I SHOULD THANK YOU FOR AN EXCITING ADVENTURE. JUST WAIT TILL MY SLEEPY GIRLS WAKE UP AND FIND WHAT THEY MISSED!

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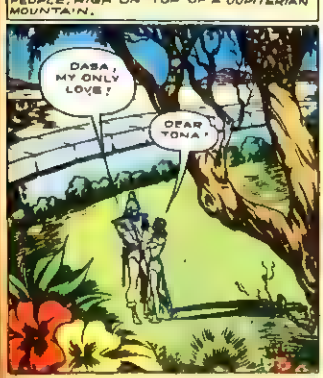
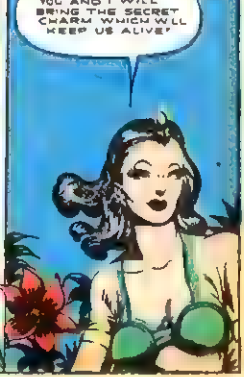
Gale Allen and her girl squadron RETURN IN THE NEXT PLANET COMICS

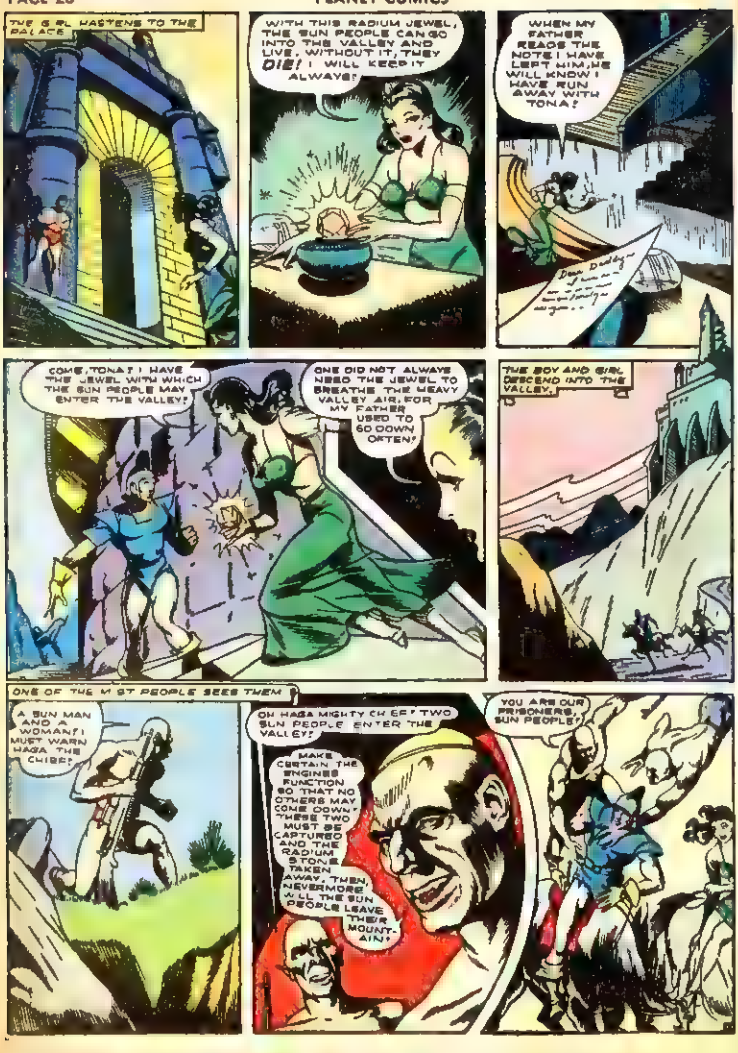
AURO
LORD OF JUPITER

BY DICK CHARLES

WHAT KNOW WE PUNY EARTHLINGS OF THE WEIRD CREATURES AND STRANGE HAPPENINGS ON DISTANT PLANETS SUCH AS HUGE JUPITER ... WHERE **AURO**, DEFENDER OF THE WEAK, STRUGGLES FOR JUSTICE AGAINST CRUEL, TITANIC FORCES? . . . . . .

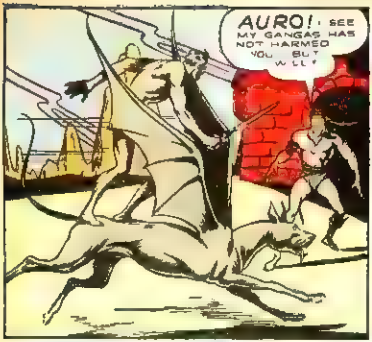


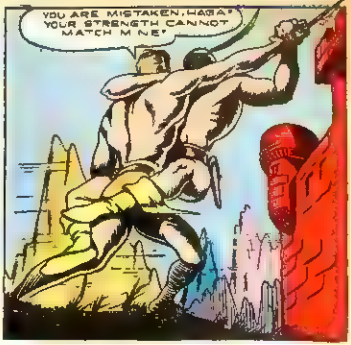



THE GIRL HASTENS TO THE PALACE
WITH THIS RADIUM JEWEL, THE SUN PEOPLE CAN GO INTO THE VALLEY AND LIVE. WITHOUT IT, THEY DIE! I WILL KEEP IT ALWAYS!
WHEN MY FATHER READS THE NOTE I HAVE LEFT HIM, HE WILL KNOW I HAVE RUN AWAY WITH TONA!
Dear Daddy—
COME, TONA! I HAVE THE JEWEL WITH WHICH THE SUN PEOPLE MAY ENTER THE VALLEY!
ONE DID NOT ALWAYS NEED THE JEWEL TO BREATHE THE HEAVY VALLEY AIR, FOR MY FATHER USED TO GO DOWN OFTEN!
THE BOY AND GIRL DESCEND INTO THE VALLEY.
ONE OF THE MOST PEOPLE SEES THEM
A SUN MAN AND A WOMAN! I MUST WARN HAGA THE CHIEF!
OH HAGA MIGHTY CHIEF! TWO SUN PEOPLE ENTER THE VALLEY!
MAKE CERTAIN THE ENGINES FUNCTION SO THAT NO OTHERS MAY COME DOWN! THESE TWO MUST BE CAPTURED AND THE RADIUM STONE TAKEN AWAY. THEN, NEVERMORE WILL THE SUN PEOPLE LEAVE THEIR MOUNTAIN!
YOU ARE OUR PRISONERS, SUN PEOPLE!

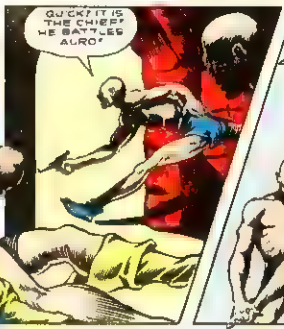
HA! HA! SO YOU TWO LOVE EACH OTHER? WELL, THIS LOVE OF YOURS WILL BE THE UNDOING OF YOUR PEOPLE, FOR NOW THEY CAN NEVER AGAIN COME TO THE VALLEY FOR THEIR YEARLY SUPPLY OF AQUAS WITHOUT WHICH THEY CANNOT LIVE!
ON THE MEANTIME, AURO VISITS THE KING OF THE SUN PEOPLE.
MY PEOPLE PREPARE FOR A FORAY INTO THE VALLEY TO REPLENISH THEIR SUPPLY OF AQUAS! I MUST SET THE RADIUM STONE!
OH TRAGIC WOE! MY OWN DAUGHTER HAS STOLEN THE STONE AND NOW, WITHOUT THE AQUAS, WE WILL ALL PERISH!
I WILL ATTEMPT TO BRING BACK THE JEWEL AND YOUR DAUGHTER! THE HEAVY AIR OF THE VALLEY AFFECTS ME NOT!
ON THE VALLEY.
AH! NOW I HAVE THE RADIUM JEWEL, AND THE SUN PEOPLE WILL DIE!
YOU MONSTER!
ANOTHER FROM THE MOUNTAIN ENTERS THE VALLEY!
IT MUST BE AURO! ONLY HE CAN STAND THE MIST WITHOUT THE AID OF THE JEWEL!
MY GANGAS WILL DO THEIR WORK!
SEARCH OUT AURO, AND BRING HIM TO ME!
AWAY, MY GANGAS AND BRING THIS INTRUDER TO ME!

AS AURO SPEEDS THROUGH THE VALLEY
THE AIR GROWS MORE DENSE!
THE KEEN EYES OF THE GANGAS SPOT THEIR QUARRY
WHAT STRANGE CREATURES ARE THESE?
GR R.
GANGAS!
MY TRUSTY BLADE WILL DEAL YOU SWIFT DEATH!
AND YOU SHALL CARRY ME TO MY DESTINATION!
UNABLE TO SHAKE AURO OFF HIS BACK THE BEAST FLIES OFF
GOOD! HE OBEYS THE PRODDING KNIFE!
THIS MUST BE THE HOME OF HAGA THE CHIEF OF THE MIST PEOPLE!

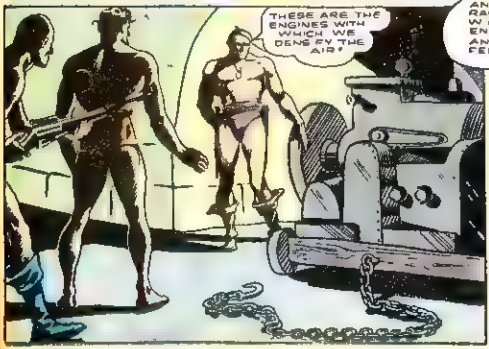

AURO! I SEE MY GANGAS HAS NOT HARMED YOU BUT WILL


YOU ARE MISTAKEN, HAGA! YOUR STRENGTH CANNOT MATCH M NE!

AS YOU CAN NOW SEE!
HELP!

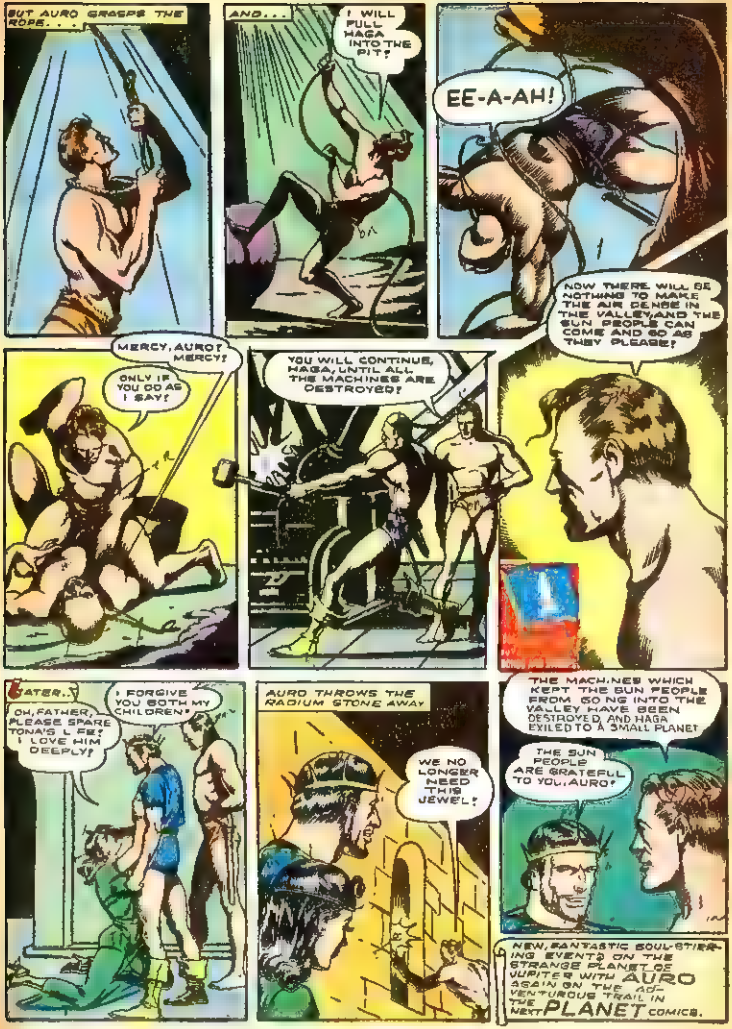

QUICK! IT IS THE CHIEF! HE BATTLES AURO!

SUPERIOR NUMBERS OF HAGA'S MEN OVER WHELM AURO.
HOLD HIM, MY TRUSTY ONES!


THESE ARE THE ENGINES WITH WHICH WE DENSIFY THE AIR!

AND NOW THAT I HAVE THE RADIUM STONE THE SUN PEOPLE WILL BE AT MY MERCY! BUT ENOUGH OF THIS! TAKE AURO AND THE OTHER TWO AND FEED THEM TO THE MANTIS!

HA HA! WHAT AN AMUSING SPORT THIS IS!
BACK, DABA, BACK! HERE COMES THE MANTIS!
OH!
AS THE MANTIS ATTACKS . . .
TONA! HELP!
THE MANTIS SWEEPS TONA ASIDE.
AURO LEAPS TO THE RESCUE.
IF I CAN SNAP HIS NECK...
THE BEAST HAS SEIZED THE GIRL!
IT IS DONE! AURO HAS TRIUMPHED!
C-R-RACK
SAVED YOURSELF AGAIN, DID YOU, AURO?! THIS TIME I SHALL MAKE CERTAIN YOU DIE!
ARGH-H!


BUT AURO GRASPS THE ROPE. . .
AND. . .
I WILL PULL MAGA INTO THE PIT!
EE-A-AH!
NOW THERE WILL BE NOTHING TO MAKE THE AIR DENSE IN THE VALLEY AND THE SUN PEOPLE CAN COME AND GO AS THEY PLEASE!
MERCY, AURO! MERCY!
ONLY IF YOU DO AS I SAY!
YOU WILL CONTINUE, MAGA, UNTIL ALL THE MACHINES ARE DESTROYED!
FATHER.
OH, FATHER, PLEASE SPARE TONA'S LIFE! I LOVE HIM DEEPLY!
I FORGIVE YOU BOTH MY CHILDREN!
AURO THROWS THE RADIUM STONE AWAY
WE NO LONGER NEED THIS JEWEL!
THE MACHINES WHICH KEPT THE SUN PEOPLE FROM GOING INTO THE VALLEY HAVE BEEN DESTROYED AND MAGA EXILED TO A SMALL PLANET
THE SUN PEOPLE ARE GRATEFUL TO YOU, AURO!
NEW, FANTASTIC SOUL-STIRRING EVENTS ON THE STRANGE PLANET OF JUPITER WITH AURO AGAIN ON THE ADVENTUROUS TRAIL IN THE NEXT PLANET COMICS.

WILL THE INSECTS CONQUER THE WORLD?

Many scientists agree on the grim possibility that the earth may some day face annihilation by hordes of gigantic insects. Their prediction is based on sound, biological facts. The startling theory that common insects are capable of evolutionary growth of one hundred or even one thousand times their present size has long been considered likely by the keenest scientific minds.

Another factor worth noting is the effect of the infiltration of sun rays through storm clouds. Large swarms of young flies and mosquitos frequently appear after heavy rains. It is entirely possible, therefore, that insect larvae or eggs in which the cells have multiplied to enormous proportions, could be further enlarged in the final stage of development by infra red and ultra violet rays passing through the clouds of a protracted storm.

The hatching grounds for this myriad of monster insects would be widely scattered among the tropical swamps of both hemispheres. And once the hungry swarms emerged from the dank morasses of Africa, South and Central America and the steaming jungles of southern Asia, the plight of man and beast alike would be one of the gravest peril.

Theoretically the life cycle of these giant insects would be similar to that of their minute predecessors. And their voracious habit of insatiable eating would remain the same. Thus the winged and crawling hordes would sweep from one country to the next in their search for food, leaving in their wake no trace of animal, vegetable or human life.

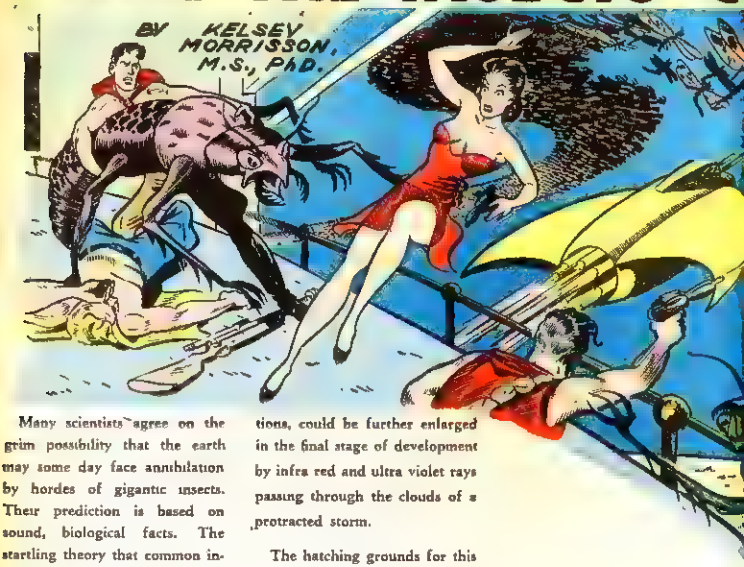
The accompanying artist's conception gives us a true picture of what the insect invasion would be like. The loss of life would be appalling, and while super ray-guns of the future would take a terrific toll of the swarming hordes, the human race could not possibly stave off a continuous assault with military weapons alone. Other means would have to be devised to repell the invaders. But we will deal with that subject later in the story.

Now let us picture the actual invasion.

Los Angeles, because of its position along the migratory lines of the insect army, might be the first American city to fall prey to the plague. Previously, the Locust Legion would have swept across the continent of Asia, consuming all plant and animal life in its path. Then the ravaging horde would turn East across the Pacific, darkening the sky over an area of one hundred square miles. The weaker ones, falling in the sea, would be eagerly devoured by sharks. For one gigantic adult locust would be more than enough to fill the largest sea killer's maw.

Bathers on the California beaches would mistake the distant roar of the flying horde for an approaching storm. As the insect cloud swept in from the sea, hundreds of bathers who

WILL THE INSECTS C



Many scientists agree on the grim possibility that the earth may some day face annihilation by hordes of gigantic insects. Their prediction is based on sound, biological facts. The startling theory that common insects are capable of evolutionary growth of one hundred or even one thousand times their present size has long been considered likely by the keenest scientific minds.

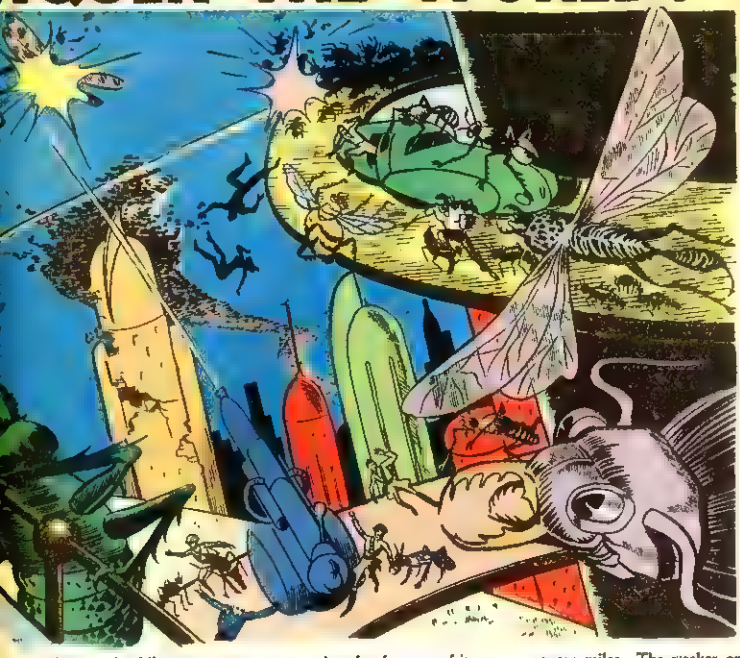
Another factor worth noting is the effect of the infiltration of sun rays through storm clouds. Large swarms of young flies and mosquitos frequently appear after heavy rains. It is entirely possible, therefore, that insect larvae or eggs in which the cells have multiplied to enormous proportions, could be further enlarged in the final stage of development by infra red and ultra violet rays passing through the clouds of a protracted storm.

The hatching grounds for this myriad of monster insects would be widely scattered among the tropical swamps of both hemispheres. And once the hungry swarms emerged from the dank morasses of Africa, South and Central America and the steaming jungles of southern Asia, the plight of man, and beast alike would be one of the gravest peril.

Theoretically the life cycle of these giant insects would be similar to that of their minute predecessors. And their voracious habit of insatiable eating would remain the same. Thus the winged and crawling hordes would sweep from one country to the next in their search for food, leaving in their wake no trace of animal, vegetable or human life.

The accompanying artist's conception gives us a true picture of what the insect invasion would be like. The loss of life would be

NQUER THE WORLD?



appalling, and while super ray-guns of the future would take a terrific toll of the swarming hordes, the human race could not possibly stave off a continuous assault with military weapons alone. Other means would have to be devised to repell the invaders. But we will deal with that subject later in the story.

Now let us picture the actual invasion.

Los Angeles, because of its position along the migratory lines of the insect army, might be the first American city to fall prey to the plague. Previously, the Locust Legion would have swept across the continent of Asia, consuming all plant and animal life in its path. Then the ravaging horde would turn East across the Pacific, darkening the sky over an area of one hundred square miles. The weaker ones, falling in the sea, would be eagerly devoured by sharks. For one gigantic adult locust would be more than enough to fill the largest sea killer's maw.

Bathers on the California beaches would mistake the distant roar of the flying horde for an approaching storm. As the insect cloud swept in from the sea, hundreds of bathers who,

had lingered in anticipation of rain would be caught in the flesh-hungry swarm.

People in wooden houses — if wood were still used for the construction of homes in the future—would be the next victims. Twenty or more giant locusts, alighting on a housetop, would cause the roof to cave in, exposing the occupants to the avaricious jaws of the winged invaders.

But those dwelling in concrete buildings would be safe until the giant termites marched over the border from Mexico. Huge redwood trees would topple like matchsticks before the saw-toothed swarm. A herd of range cattle, stampeded by the rolling red wave, would be engulfed and swiftly eaten alive by the wolf-sized ants.

By nightfall a week hence the spearhead of the termite army would be choking the downtown streets of Los Angeles. The tremendous weight of their massed, writhing bodies would spring open doors on the ground level.

The city would be thrown into darkness when the crawling invaders fell upon guards stationed outside the municipal power-house, and surged over the gates to the generating plant where their red bodies short-circuited the huge dynamos amid a blaze of purple sparks.

Circling at low altitude over the blacked-out city, police rocket cars would pour a steady, withering stream of fire from ray guns into the ranks of the teeming termites and locusts. The death rays would slaughter thousands of the gigantic insects but millions more would swarm over the dead to fill in the gaps.

Then, from the southern horizon would appear a black, tornado-like funnel—the armada of immense dragon flies or "darning needles." Their insect brains paying no heed to the police rocket cars, they would fly en masse into the ray belching craft. Dying, their heavy bodies would plummet like rocks, smashing the rocket cars' metal hulls.

When the last police car had crashed to earth there would be only intermittent ray fire from armed civilians putting up a last line of defense from a superstructure built of quartz blocks and stainless steel.

Moans of the dying would still echo through the streets. Here and there a woman's scream, piercing the night as a ferocious insect clamped its noisome body about her waist.

But while the insect armies converged upon Los Angeles, scientists, forewarned of the attack, would be concentrated at strategic points beyond the outskirts.

At Long Beach the oil fields would be set ablaze, attracting swarms of mammoth tiger moths and other flying insects. Great masses of them would be consumed by the oil flames until their charred bodies snuffed out the fires.

North of the ravaged city other scientists would set the forests into a blazing inferno, stretching for hundreds of miles. Fanned by a high wind from the Sierras, the licking flames would race to meet the advancing horde of locusts and crawling insects. The fire would creep over a mounting wall of the dead to consume the last trace of the giant invaders.

Thus caught between two such tremendous fires, the conquering hordes of insectdom might be destroyed by American ingenuity and scientific genius.

We hope, however, that this awesome calamity does not occur in our day.

Another thrilling FUTURE-FACT science feature will appear in the next issue of PLANET COMICS.

THE LOST WORLD

By THORNCLIFFE HERRICK

ONLY ONE MAN COULD WIN THE FIGHT FOR SURVIVAL ON EARTH IN THE 33RD CENTURY. THIS STORY OF STRANGE HUNT BOWMAN - A LONELY ARCHER KNOWING NOTHING OF HIS FORE-BEARERS SCIENCES BUT HUNTS TIRELESS SEARCH FOR A HUMAN MATE REACHES A FANTASTIC CLIMAX WHEN A WILD VOYAGE THROUGH SPACE ENDS ON A WORLD THE UNIVERSE FORGOT!

RAVAGED BY PLANET WARS AND RESULTING PLAGUE, EARTH IN THE 33RD CENTURY IS UNINHABITED BY HUMAN LIFE

BUT ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF CHICAGO'S RUINS A LONE ARCHER STALKS DEER WITH HIS ARROWS. LONE-SOME HUNT BOWMAN, THE LAST HUMAN ON EARTH

THREE SEASONS HAVE PASSED SINCE MY BROTHER DIED. MY SEARCH FOR ANOTHER HUMAN IS HOPELESS NOW. WHAT'S THAT IN THE SKY?

IT'S TOO LARGE FOR A BIRD OR A FLYING BEAST. NOW IT'S COMING TOWARD ME!

THE SPACE SHIP LANDS NEARBY AND ITS STRANGE CREW EMERGES TO GAZE IN WONDER AT HUNT BOWMAN
LOOK! A LIVE EARTHMAN! OUR MANHUNT OVER EARTH IS ENDED!
AYE! AND WHAT A SPECIMEN HE IS! BUT GO SLOW HE CARRIES A QUEER WEAPON!
SUDDENLY THE WEIRD TRIO'S LEADER APPEARS FROM THE HATCH WITH A BEAUTIFUL HUMAN CAPTIVE
YOU WERE RIGHT IQOR ONE SURVIVED!
YES! A WARRIOR OF THE LOST RACE WE WILL CAPTURE HIM ALIVE!
WHAT A FINE LOOKING FELLOW PERHAPS HE CAN HELP ME TO ESCAPE THESE ROGUES
WE WILL TAKE HIM BACK TO VOLTA BUT BEFORE WE PUT HIM ON PUBLIC EXHIBIT, WE WILL STARVE HIM ALMOST TO DEATH SO OUR PEOPLE WILL THINK THE HUMANS WERE AN INFERIOR RACE!
MYSTERIOUSLY THE UGLY CREATURES ADVANCE ON HUNT BOWMAN
YOU'RE A FOOL, IQOR YOU CAN'T USE ME TO LURE HIM!
BUT I WOULD NOT LEAVE YOU! TO ESCAPE IN MY SHIP!
LOOK! HE'S GOING TO USE THAT ODD WEAPON AGAINST US!
AS THE RAIDERS APPROACH, HUNT NOTCHES AN ARROW IN HIS POWERFUL LONG BOW
THEY MUST BE THE FOUR LEGGED MEN WHO KILLED MY TRIBE WHEN I WAS YOUNG HERE IS MY CHANCE FOR REVENGE!
FEW MEN COULD HANDLE HUNT'S BOW WITH ITS 200 POUND PULL HIS GREAT MUSCLES QUIVER AS HE RELEASES A STONE TIPPED SHAFT
BUT IQOR DISINTEGRATES THE ARROW IN FLIGHT WITH A LIGHTNING BOLT SHOT FROM AN ELECTRO PISTOL

HUNT PAUSES, BAFFLED BY THE FLASH

THEIR CLOUD FIRE MADE SPLINTERS OF MY ARROW I MUST PRETEND TO SURRENDER

SWIFTLY THE LONG-ARMED CREATURES CLOSE IN AROUND HIM

PUT DOWN YOUR WEAPON, EARTHMAN YOU ARE OUR CAPTIVE LIKE THIS GIRL WE TOOK FROM THE LOST WORLD.

WITH A SUDDEN MOVE, HUNT SNATCHES UP THE NEAREST ONE

AND HURLS HIM WITH STUNNING FORCE AGAINST THE OTHERS

BUT THE WILY IOOR SPARES HUNT'S LIFE

NO, AKAN! DON'T SHOOT! STUN HIM WITH A GLOBE OF COMET VAPOR!

AS AKAN HURLS THE GLOBE, AN ARROW FROM HUNT'S BOW DROPS HIM IN HIS TRACKS!

ERZK!

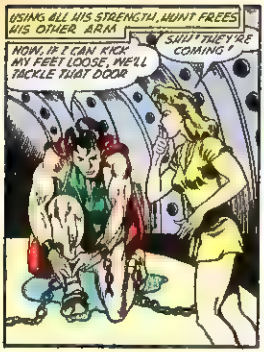
BUT HUNT BOWMAN'S POWERFUL LUNGS CANNOT FIGHT THE NOXIOUS GAS

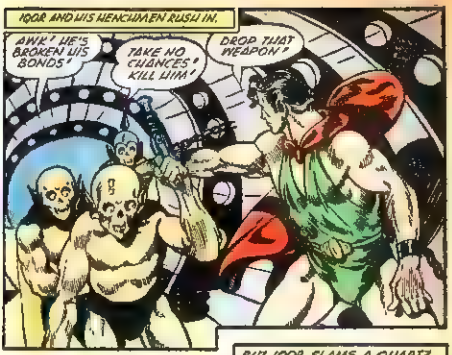
GRAB HIM, QUICK BEFORE THE WIND BLOWS!

DID THE FOOL THINK HE WAS BETTER THAN WE?

HE WOULD BE A FOOL IF HE DID!

UNCONSCIOUS, HUNT IS DRAGGED TOWARD THE SPACE SHIP
HURRY! WE MUST BIND HIM BEFORE HE AWAKENS!
STILL LIMP, HE IS BOOSTED THROUGH THE HATCH
WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH HIM, IQOR?
LASH HIM SECURELY IN THE CARGO ROOM WITH THE WOMAN IF HE GETS LOOSE, HE'LL KILL US!
IN A FEW MOMENTS THE SPACE CRAFT LOOMS OFF EARTH, POWERED BY ELECTRO DYNAMIC ENERGIA
OVERCOMING THE VAPOR'S EFFECT, HUNT FINDS HIMSELF SECURELY BOUND TO THE DECK PLATES
UH! WHERE AM I? MY ARMS AND FEET - I CAN'T MOVE THEM!
WITH A TREMENDOUS PULL HE FREES ONE ARM
AH! THAT WASN'T HARD! I MUST GET FREE AND FIND THAT BEAUTIFUL WOMAN CAPTIVE
YOU HAVEN'T FAR TO LOOK! I'M RIGHT BEHIND YOU. HAVE YOU A NAME, EARTHMAN?
OH! YOU'RE HERE! UH, YES I WAS CALLED HUNT BOWMAN BY THE LAST ON EARTH! TO DIE BUT WHO - WHERE ARE YOU FROM?
I AM LYSSA, QUEEN OF THE LOST WORLD. MY PEOPLE ARE DESCENDANTS OF EARLY SPACE VOYAGERS FROM EARTH!
BUT THESE BRUTES FROM VOLTA KILLED OR CAPTURED ALL THE WOMEN BEFORE THEY CAUGHT ME. IF YOU CAN BREAK YOUR BONDS, WE CAN ESCAPE TOGETHER
GOOD! I WILL TRY AGAIN!

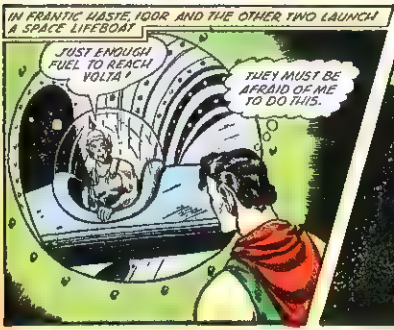

USING ALL HIS STRENGTH, HUNT FREES HIS OTHER ARM
NOW, IF I CAN KICK MY FEET LOOSE, WE'LL TACKLE THAT DOOR
SHH! THEY'RE COMING!


IGOR AND HIS HENCHMEN RUSH IN.
AWK! HE'S BROKEN HIS BONDS!
TAKE NO CHANCES! KILL HIM!
DROP THAT WEAPON!

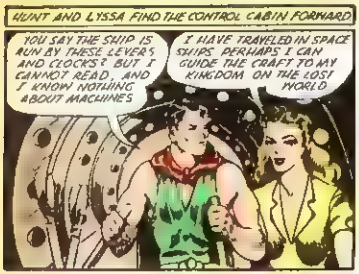
HUNT LASHES OUT SWIFTLY, THE LOOSE CHAIN FROM HIS WRIST SHORT-CIRCUITING THE ELECTRO PISTOL, KILLING HIS AS
YOU HEARD WHAT I SAID!

SCREAMING IN TERROR, IGOR FLEES
MY OTHER FOOT IS FREE! I'LL GET HIM!

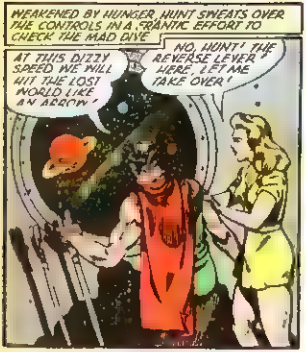
BUT IGOR SLAMS A QUARTZ BULKHEAD IN HUNT'S FACE..
YOU CAN'T BREAK THROUGH BEFORE WE DESERT THE SHIP. YOU'LL CRASH THE NEXT PLANET!

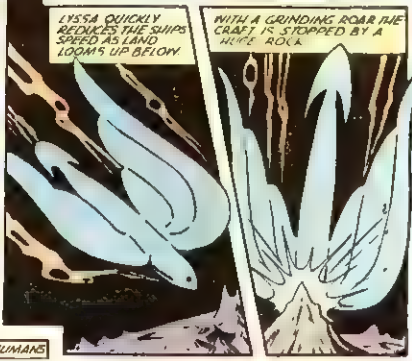

IN FRANTIC HASTE, IGOR AND THE OTHER TWO LAUNCH A SPACE LIFEBOAT
JUST ENOUGH FUEL TO REACH VOLTA!
THEY MUST BE AFRAID OF ME TO DO THIS.

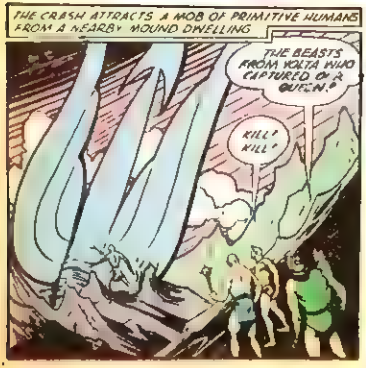
THE LIFEBOAT ZOOMS AWAY, LEAVING HUNT AND LYSSA AT THE MERCY OF THE RUNAWAY SPACE SHIP

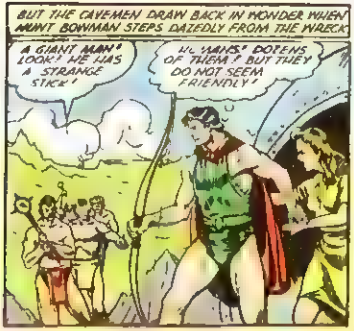

HUNT AND LYSSA FIND THE CONTROL CABIN FORWARD
YOU SAY THE SHIP IS RUN BY THESE LEVERS AND CLOCKS? BUT I CANNOT READ, AND I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT MACHINES
I HAVE TRAVELED IN SPACE SHIPS. PERHAPS I CAN GUIDE THE CRAFT TO MY KINGDOM ON THE LOST WORLD

DAYS LATER - ITS POWER NEARLY EXHAUSTED - THE SHIP SPIRALS IN A CRAZY PLUNGE TOWARD AN UNCHARTED PLANET ON THE BORDER OF THE SOLAR UNIVERSE


WEAKENED BY HUNGER, HUNT SWEATS OVER THE CONTROLS IN A FRANTIC EFFORT TO CHECK THE MAD DIVE
AT THIS DIZZY SPEED WE WILL HIT THE LOST WORLD LIKE AN ARROW
NO, HUNT! THE REVERSE LEVER'S HERE. LET ME TAKE OVER!

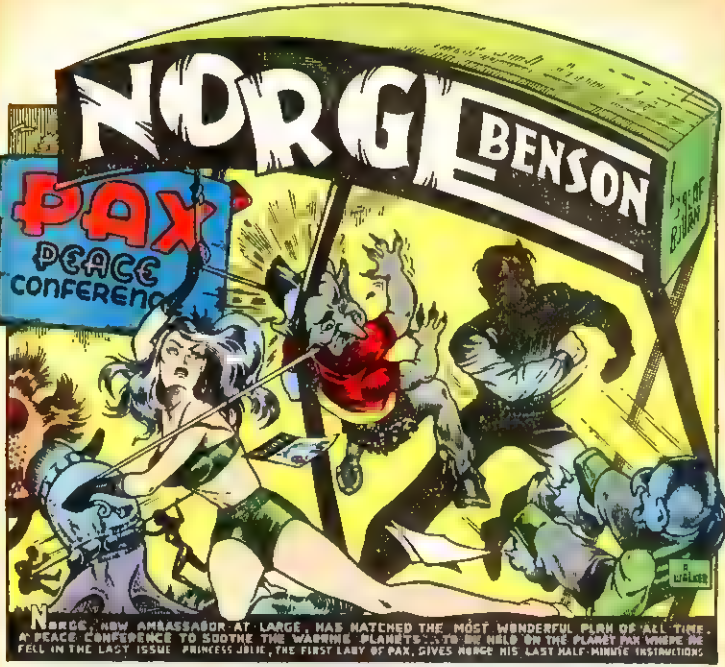

LYSSA QUICKLY REDUCES THE SHIP'S SPEED AS LAND LOOMS UP BELOW
WITH A GRINDING ROAR THE CRAFT IS STOPPED BY A HUGE ROCK

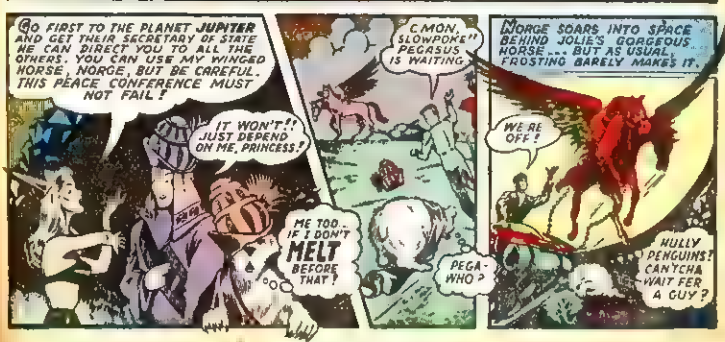

THE CRASH ATTRACTS A MOB OF PRIMITIVE HUMANS FROM A NEARBY MOUND DWELLING
THE BEASTS FROM VOLTA WHO CAPTURED OUR QUEEN!
KILL! KILL!


BUT THE CAVEMEN DRAW BACK IN WONDER WHEN HUNT BOWMAN STEPS DAZEDLY FROM THE WRECK
A GIANT MAN! LOOK! HE HAS A STRANGE STICK!
HE HAVE? DOZENS OF THEM? BUT THEY DO NOT SEEM FRIENDLY!

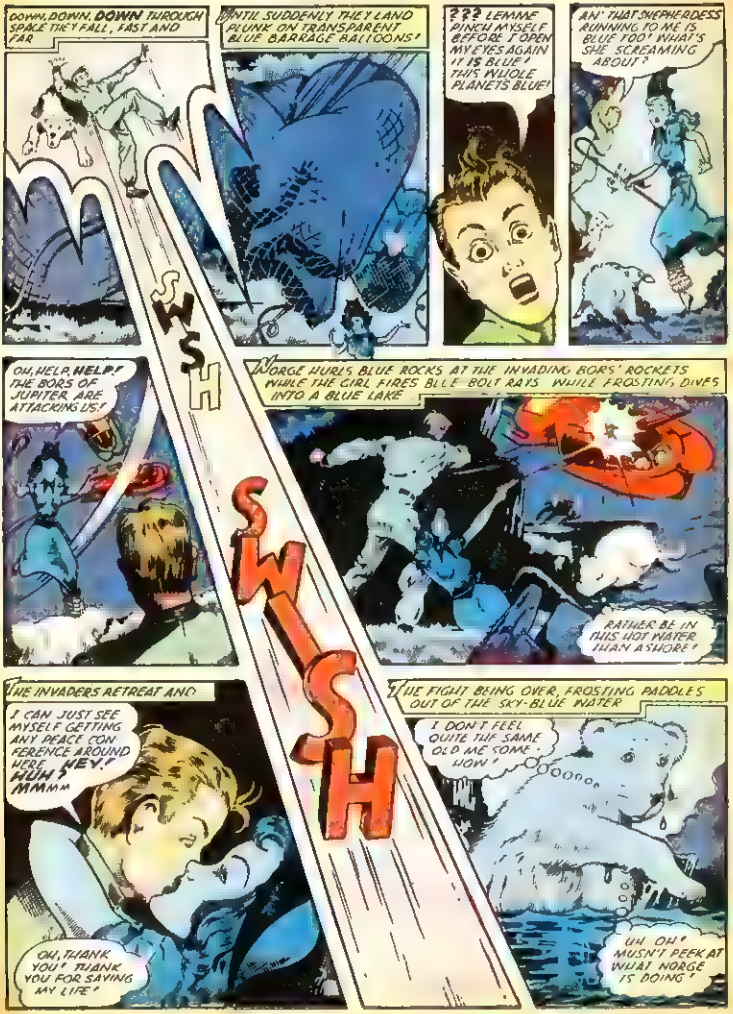
DON'T BE AFRAID OF ME. I AM GLAD TO JOIN YOU FOR I HAVE NOT SEEN ANY OF MY OWN RACE SINCE I WAS A BOY.
BUT THE CAVEMEN ARE SUSPICIOUS AND SURROUND HIM WARILY.
WAIT! I BRING NO HARM TO YOUR PEOPLE.
KILL THE GIANT!
HE COMES TO CLAIM LYSSA'S THRONE!
AS THE CAVEMEN PRECEDE TUFIR QUEEN TOWARD THE MOUND, A STRANGE, SPIRAL-BODIED MONSTER LOOMS UP BEHIND THEM.
SUDDENLY, LYSSA IS RECOGNIZED BY ONE OF HER SUBJECTS
STOP! THIS MAN IS FROM EARTH! HE SAVED ME FROM IOOR!
THANKS, LYSSA. I DID NOT WANT TO HURT THEM BUT ONLY WAVE'T THE BRUTES FROM VOLTA DESTROYED YOUR MEN?
BECAUSE THEIR ELECTRIC AND GAS WEAPONS ARE USELESS AGAINST THIS CREATURE. BEAST, THE SPIRAX ONE OF THEM IS COMING NOW WE MUST HURRY!
MEANWHILE, INSIDE THE MOUND, A SPOKESMAN HARANGUES THE CAVE-MEN
WE MUST ARISE AGAINST LYSSA FOR SHE WILL MAKE THIS GIANT OUR KING!
BAH! YOU ARE JEALOUS, BASIL!
OVER THE ROCK-STUDDED PLAIN WEAVES THE FIERCE MAN-EATING SPIRAX
SUDDENLY BASIL SMASHES THE OBJECTOR'S SKULL WITH A CLUB
THERE! NOW, LOCK OUT LYSSA AND THE GIANT. LET THE SPIRAX DEVOUR THEM!
AAK!

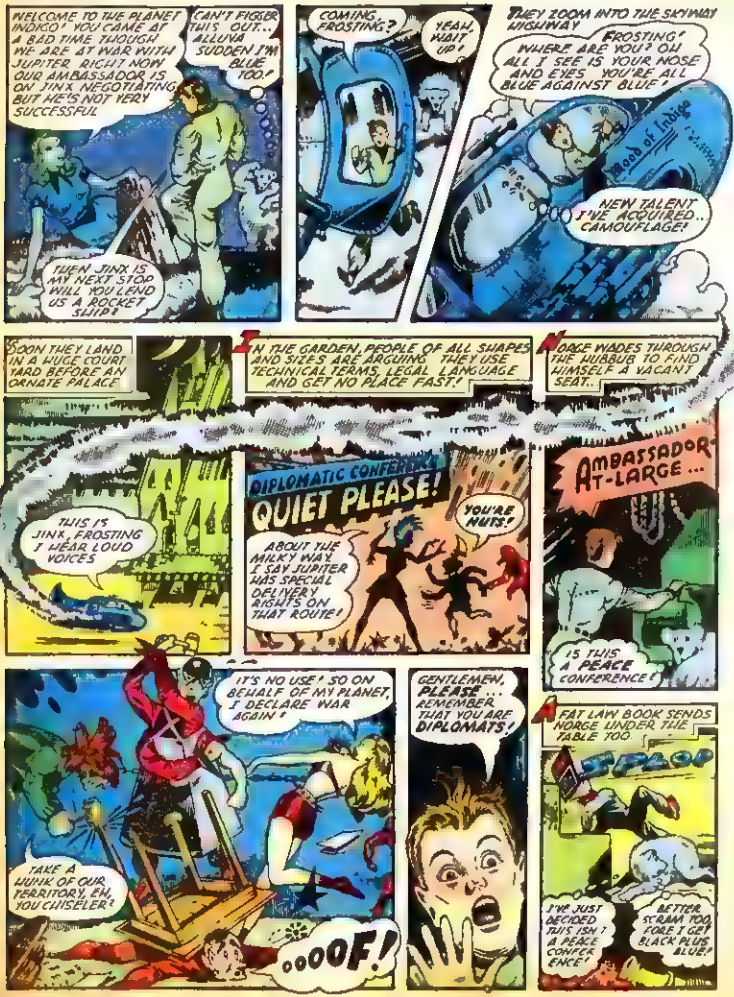
OUTSIDE, THE SPIRAX CLOSE IN.
LOCKED! IT'S DOUBLE BARRED, EVEN YOU CANNOT BREAK IT DOWN, HUNT!
HERE COME TWO OF YOUR MEN!
DARTING FROM THE DOOR THEY FIND TWO BEWILDERED CAVE-MEN
BASIL LOCKED ME OUT SO HE CAN BE KING - I'VE FOUR MUST KILL THE SPIRAX - IF THAT'S POSSIBLE!
PERHAPS THE EARTHMAN'S WEAPON CAN PIERCE ITS TOUGH HIDE
FEARLESSLY THE CAVEMEN MEET THE SPIRAX'S SAVAGE CHARGE
HUNT PUTS ALL HIS STRENGTH BEHIND A TREMENDOUS PULL OF HIS LONGBOW
IF THIS ARROW DOESN'T STOP HIM, NOTHING WILL!
THE SPIRAX LURCHES AS THE SHAFT DRIVES DEEP INTO ITS BODY
YOU STRUCK A VITAL SPOT LOOK, HE'S REELING OVER!
WITH A WEIRD HISS THE MONSTER FALLS OVER - DEAD
YOU SAVED OUR LIVES, HUNT! WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE MY REIGN AS KING?
ER, WELL LYSSA - YES BUT YOUR MEN DISLIKE ME.
THEY WON'T ANYMORE! LOOK THE TRAITOR, BASIL IS FLEEING HE CHOOSES TO RISK DEATH BY THE SPIRAXES THAN TO FACE ME AND YOU!
AN ARROW WOULD STOP HIM BUT IN MY LONELY LIFE ON EARTH I VOWED NEVER TO KILL A HUMAN I'M KEEPING THAT PLEDGE!
HUNT BOWMAN AND QUEEN LYSSA DEFY THE INHUMAN VENGEANCE OF IOOR ON THE LOST WORLD IN THE NEXT PLANET COMICS!


NORG
BENSON
PAX
PEACE
CONFERENC
NORGE, NOW AMBASSADOR AT LARGE, HAS HATCHED THE MOST WONDERFUL PLAN OF ALL TIME. A PEACE CONFERENCE TO SOOTHE THE WARRING PLANETS...TO BE HELD ON THE PLANET PAX WHERE HE FELL IN THE LAST ISSUE. PRINCESS JOLIE, THE FIRST LADY OF PAX, GIVES NORGE HIS LAST HALF-MINUTE INSTRUCTIONS

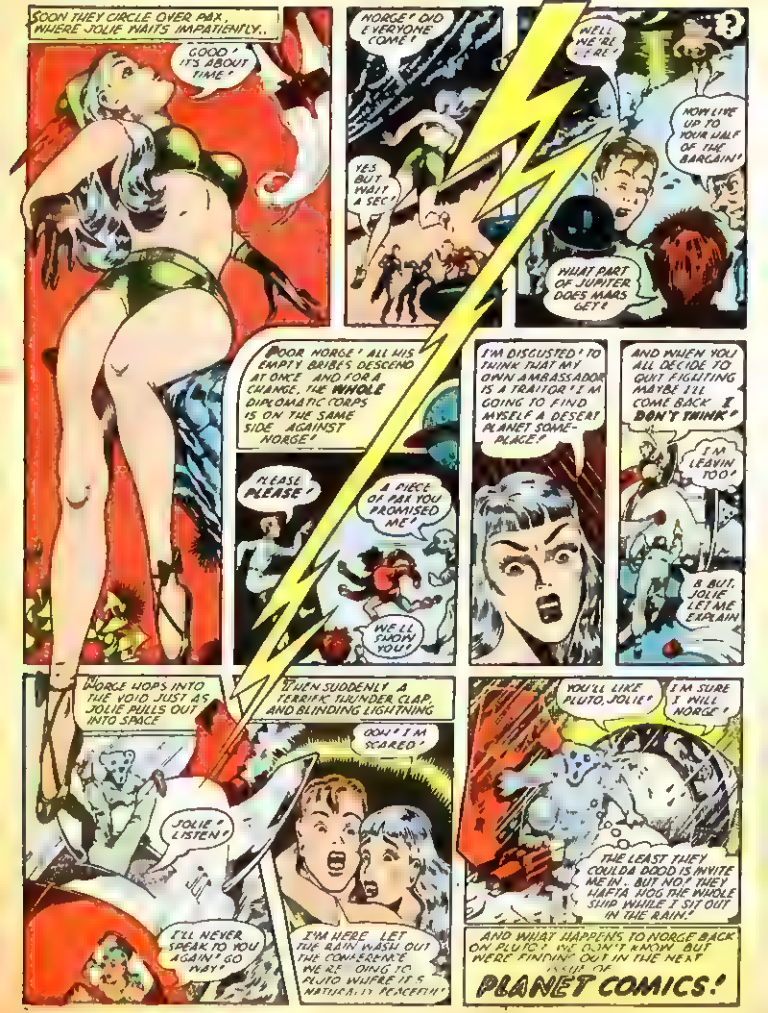

GO FIRST TO THE PLANET JUPITER AND GET THEIR SECRETARY OF STATE HE CAN DIRECT YOU TO ALL THE OTHERS. YOU CAN USE MY WINGED HORSE, NORGE, BUT BE CAREFUL. THIS PEACE CONFERENCE MUST NOT FAIL!
IT WON'T!! JUST DEPEND ON ME, PRINCESS!
ME TOO IF I DON'T MELT BEFORE THAT!
C'MON, SLOWPOKE!! PEGASUS IS WAITING.
PEGA-WHO?
NORGE SOARS INTO SPACE BEHIND JOLIE'S GORGEOUS HORSE... BUT AS USUAL, FROSTING BARELY MAKES IT.
WE'RE OFF!
HULLY PENGUINS! CANYCHA WAIT FER A GUY?

AT THE EDGE OF PAX NORGE UNHITCHES THE HORSE, PLANNING TO PROCEED BY AIRSLED ONLY.
PEGASUS CAN'T LIVE IN ANY ATMOSPHERE BUT PAX'S
THAT SO?
MAYBE WE'LL FIND HATRACK SOMEPLACE
YEAH I KINDA MISS THE OLD DEAL!
WE SHOULD BE NEAR JUPITER, BUT SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH OUR COMPASS, AND THE GLOBE WON'T TURN AND THE CALIPERS ARE STUCK...
ANYWAY, FROSTING, WE'RE LANDING SOMEPLACE!
THUMP
THIS COULD BE JUPITER, THOUGH I DON'T SEE ANY SIGNS
WE EITHER BUT I SMELL TROUBLE
AMBUSH!
SUDDENLY A HOST OF BEAUTIFUL YOUNG WOMEN SPRING FROM HIDING ..
UUH!
HEY!
DRAG THEM TO OUR QUEEN!
BEFORE THEY CAN BREATHE, NORGE AND FROSTING ARE PINNED TO THE GROUND, A LA GULLIVER ON HIS TRAVELS
TALK ABOUT HOSPITALITY, FROSTING
GRRR. WHO'S TALKIN' ABOUT IT? NEVER HEARD OF THE THING!
THEY INTERRUPT THE QUEEN'S TELESCOPIC EXPLORATIONS
UGH! A MAN! TOSS HIM OUT I WANT GOOD FOOD FOR MY HOUNDS!
O NORGE AND FROSTING ARE PROMPTLY SLUNG INTO EMPTY SPACE WITHOUT EVEN TIME TO GET THEIR SLED.
THAT MUST BE AMAZONIA! ONLY PLACE I KNOW OF WHERE WOMEN THROW US OUT!
AN' I BEEN THROWN OUTTA BETTER PLACES THAN THAT!


DOWN, DOWN, DOWN THROUGH SPACE THEY FALL, FAST AND FAR
UNTIL SUDDENLY THEY LAND PLUNK ON TRANSPARENT BLUE BARRAGE BALLOONS!
??? LEMME PINCH MYSELF BEFORE I OPEN MY EYES AGAIN IT IS BLUE! THIS WHOLE PLANET'S BLUE!
AN' THAT SHEPHERDESS RUNNING TO ME IS BLUE TOO! WHAT'S SHE SCREAMING ABOUT?
SWISH
OH, HELP, HELP! THE BORS OF JUPITER ARE ATTACKING US!
NORGE HURLS BLUE ROCKS AT THE INVADING BORS' ROCKETS WHILE THE GIRL FIRES BLUE BOLT RAYS WHILE FROSTING DIVES INTO A BLUE LAKE
RATHER BE IN THIS HOT WATER THAN ASHORE!
SWISH
THE INVADERS RETREAT AND
I CAN JUST SEE MYSELF GETTING ANY PEACE CONFERENCE AROUND HERE HUH? HEY! MMMM
OH, THANK YOU! THANK YOU FOR SAVING MY LIFE!
THE FIGHT BEING OVER, FROSTING PADDLES OUT OF THE SKY-BLUE WATER
I DON'T FEEL QUITE THE SAME OLD ME SOME HOW"
UH OH! MUSN'T PEEK AT WHAT NORGE IS DOING"


WELCOME TO THE PLANET INDIGO! YOU CAME AT A BAD TIME THOUGH WE ARE AT WAR WITH JUPITER RIGHT NOW! OUR AMBASSADOR IS ON JINX NEGOTIATING BUT HE'S NOT VERY SUCCESSFUL
CAN'T FIGGER THIS OUT.. ALLUVA SUDDEN I'M BLUE TOO!
THEN JINX IS MY NEXT STOP WILL YOU LEND US A ROCKET SHIP?
COMING, FROSTING?
YEAH, WAIT UP!
THEY ZOOM INTO THE SKYWAY HIGHWAY
FROSTING! WHERE ARE YOU? OH ALL I SEE IS YOUR NOSE AND EYES YOU'RE ALL BLUE AGAINST BLUE!
Mood of Indigo
NEW TALENT I'VE ACQUIRED.. CAMOUFLAGE!
SOON THEY LAND IN A HUGE COURT YARD BEFORE AN ORNATE PALACE.
IN THE GARDEN, PEOPLE OF ALL SHAPES AND SIZES ARE ARGUING THEIR USE TECHNICAL TERMS, LEGAL LANGUAGE AND GET NO PLACE FAST!
NORGE WADES THROUGH THE HUBBUB TO FIND HIMSELF A VACANT SEAT..
THIS IS JINX, FROSTING I HEAR LOUD VOICES
DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE
QUIET PLEASE!
ABOUT THE MILKY WAY I SAY JUPITER HAS SPECIAL DELIVERY RIGHTS ON THAT ROUTE!
YOU'RE NUTS!
AMBASSADOR AT-LARGE ...
IS THIS A PEACE CONFERENCE?
IT'S NO USE! SO ON BEHALF OF MY PLANET, I DECLARE WAR AGAIN!
TAKE A HUNK OF OUR TERRITORY, EH, YOU CHISELER?
OOOOF!
GENTLEMEN, PLEASE ... REMEMBER THAT YOU ARE DIPLOMATS!
FAT LAW BOOK SENDS NORGE UNDER THE TABLE TOO
SPLAT
I'VE JUST DECIDED THIS ISN'T A PEACE CONFERENCE!
BETTER STRAM TOO, FOR I GET BLACK PLUS BLUE!

JORGE IS AGGRAVATED PAST ENDURANCE
G'WAN! TAKE BACK YOUR LAW BOOK AN' CHOKE ON IT!
LAW
PLANETARY JURISPRUDENCE AND LEGAL LOOPHOLES
GRABBING A LONG BELL ROPE, HE SWINGS OVER THE CONFERRING HEADS...
MAYBE I CAN KNOCK SENSE INTO YOU!
THE DIPLOMATS ARE SO SURPRISED THAT THEY KEEP QUIET!
THAT'S BETTER! NOW LISTEN, I'M RUNNING THIS SHOW! WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A CONFERENCE ON PAX, SEE?
WELL STRAIGHTEN OUT THIS PLANET WAR NOW I'D LIKE TO MEET YOU ALL EACH PRIVATELY!
SURE!
WE'RE WILLING!
YOU AMBASSADOR FOAMFLUSH OF MARS? INTERESTED IN A HUNK OF JUPITER!
SURE! FOR THAT WE'LL MAKE PEACE!
AND SECRETARY MINX OF JINX ALSO GETS A GOOD OFFER.
BROTHER BENSON, FOR THE RIGHTS FOR THE MILKY WAY, MY PLANET WILL COOPERATE IN ANYTHING!
JORGE CONTINUES HIS PRIVATE CONFERENCES, NOW WITH THE LADY REPRESENTATIVE OF AMAZONIA
IF YOU GIVE US THE STAR LIGHT POWER COMPANY, WE'LL AGREE!
SURE!
HAPPY, THEY ALL BOARD THE "UNIVERSE OMNIBUS" EACH AMBASSADOR THINKING HE PUT SOMETHING OVER ON THE OTHERS
BOY OBOY! WILL MY PLANET BE TICKLED!
MY PEOPLE WILL ELECT ME FOR ANOTHER TERM!
JORGE PULLS THE ROCKET RELEASE
COUGH COUGH!
AND OFF THEY ZOOM, TO TRANSFER THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE BODILY TO PAX.

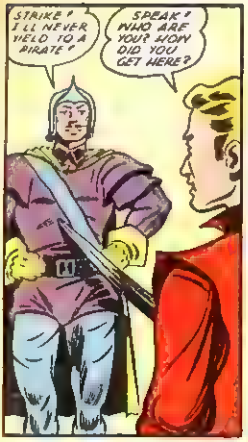

SOON THEY CIRCLE OVER PAX, WHERE JOLIE WAITS IMPATIENTLY..
GOOD! IT'S ABOUT TIME!
NORGE! DID EVERYONE COME!
YES BUT WAIT A SEC!
WELL WE'RE HERE!
NOW LIVE UP TO YOUR HALF OF THE BARGAIN!
WHAT PART OF JUPITER DOES MAAS GET!
POOR NORGE! ALL HIS EMPTY BRIBES DESCEND AT ONCE AND FOR A CHANGE, THE WHOLE DIPLOMATIC CORPS IS ON THE SAME SIDE AGAINST NORGE!
PLEASE PLEASE!
A PIECE OF PAX YOU PROMISED ME!
WE'LL ENJOY YOU!
I'M DISGUSTED! TO THINK THAT MY OWN AMBASSADOR IS A TRAITOR! I'M GOING TO FIND MYSELF A DESERT PLANET SOME-PLACE!
AND WHEN YOU ALL DECIDE TO QUIT FIGHTING MAYBE I'LL COME BACK I DON'T THINK!
I'M LEAVIN TOO!
BUT, JOLIE LET ME EXPLAIN
NORGE HOPS INTO THE VOID JUST AS JOLIE ROLLS OUT INTO SPACE
JOLIE! LISTEN!
I'LL NEVER SPEAK TO YOU AGAIN! GO WAY!
THEN SUDDENLY A TERRIFIC THUNDER CLAP AND BLINDING LIGHTNING
OOH! I'M SCARED!
I'M HERE LET THE RAIN WASH OUT THE CONFERENCE WE'RE GOING TO PLUTO WHERE IT'S NATURAL TO PEACEFUL!
YOU'LL LIKE PLUTO, JOLIE!
I AM SURE I WILL NORGE!
THE LEAST THEY COULDA DOOD IS INVITE ME IN.. BUT NOT THEY HAFTA LOCK THE WHOLE SHIP WHILE I SIT OUT IN THE RAIN!
AND WHAT HAPPENS TO NORGE BACK ON PLUTO? WE DON'T KNOW! BUT WE'RE FINDIN' OUT IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF
PLANET COMICS!

Star Pirate

By LEONARDO VINCI

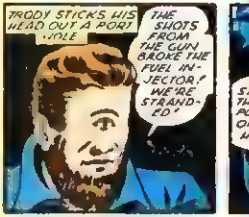
STAR RAIDER SCOURGE OF THE RUTHLESS SPACE CHANNEL ROBBERS WITH A PRICE PUNTED ON HIS HEAD BY UNJU THE MINER KINGS DEVIL DEATH ALONG HIS MERRY WAY AS A SPACE ROBIN HOOD
INSIDE THEIR ROCKET SHIP, STAR PIRATE AND HIS TRUSTED SHIP MATE, TRODY, MAKE THEIR PLANS
THE KING OF PLUTO WAS JUST IMPOSED ANOTHER TAX ON HIS SUBJECTS ! WE'LL PICK UP THE JEWELS WE TOOK FROM HIM ON OUR LAST RAID AND GIVE THEM TO THE PEOPLE TO PAY HIM WITH!
GOOD IDEA ! I'LL STEER FOR OUR DESERT PLANETOID!
FOLLOWING STRANGE AND SECRET CHANNELS, THE PIRATE CRAFT DARTS DOWN ON A DESERT PLANETOID!

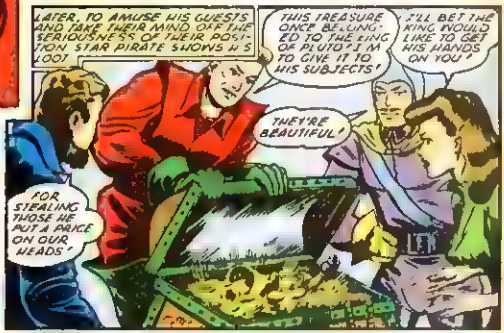
...IT COMES TO REST ON THE BARREN SURFACE
STEPPING FROM THEIR SHIP THEY ARE MET BY A HAIL OF BULLETS.
DUCK, TRODY! SOME ONE'S SHOOTING!
HIDING BEHIND THEIR CRAFT, THEY WATCH THE APPROACH OF THE ATTACKERS
THEY SURE PUNCTURED OUR SHIP!
WONDER WHO THEY ARE AND HOW THEY GOT HERE? HERE THEY COME! GET READY TO JUMP 'EM!
SUDDENLY, STAR PIRATE AND TRODY HURL THEMSELVES ON THE INTRUDERS.
COURAGE, WISTA!
LET'S GO!
THE STRANGER DRAWS HIS SWORD AND ACCEPTS THE CHALLENGE
COME ON, YOU CUT-THROATS!
HE'S GOT NERVE!
WITH A SUDDEN THRUST, STAR PIRATE SENDS HIS OPPONENTS SWORD SPINNING
WHILE TRODY DISARMS THE GIRL
NOT SO FAST, SISTER!
OH!

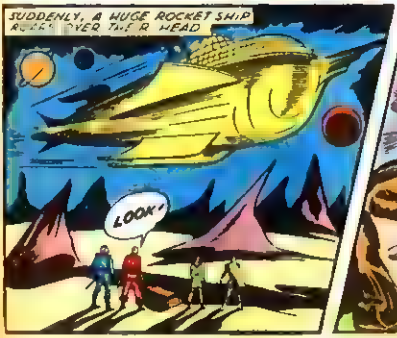

STRIKE! I'LL NEVER YIELD TO A PIRATE!
SPEAK! WHO ARE YOU? HOW DID YOU GET HERE?

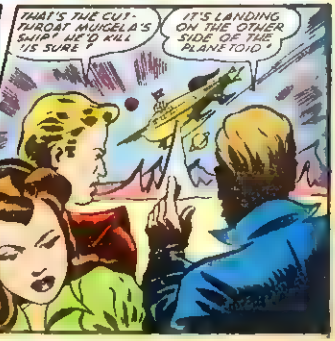
I AM SIR GAYDA FROM PLUTO! MY FRIEND AND I WERE OUT FOR A SPIN IN OUR SPACE SHIP WHEN WE WERE HELD UP BY PIRATES AND MARROONED ON THIS DESERT PLANETOID! I WILL PAY YOU WELL IF YOU WILL TAKE US BACK!

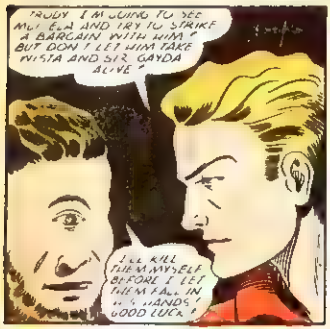
TRODY ENTERS THE SHIP AS STAR PIRATE ESCORTS HIS UNEXPECTED G : TS
WE'LL TAKE YOU BACK NEXT TIME DON'T BE SO QUICK WITH YOUR SWORD!
I'VE THOUGHT YOU WERE PIRATES!


TRODY STICKS HIS HEAD OUT A PORT HOLE
THE SHOTS FROM THE GUN BROKE THE FUEL IN-JECTOR! WE'RE STRAND-ED!


LATER, TO AMUSE HIS GUESTS AND TAKE THEIR MIND OFF THE SERIOUSNESS OF THEIR POSI-TION, STAR PIRATE SHOWS H S LOOT
THIS TREASURE ONCE BELONGED TO THE KING OF PLUTO? I M TO GIVE IT TO HIS SUBJECTS!
I'LL BET THE KING WOULD LIKE TO GET HIS HANDS ON YOU!
THEY'RE BEAUTIFUL!
FOR STEALING THOSE HE PUT A PRICE ON OUR HEADS!

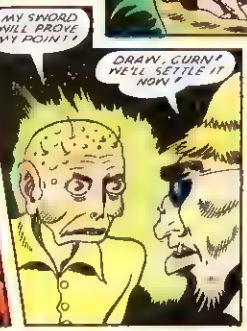

SUDDENLY, A HUGE ROCKET SHIP ROARED OVER THEIR HEADS
LOOK!


THAT'S THE CUT-THROAT MUCIELA'S SHIP! HE'D KILL US SURE!
IT'S LANDING ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE PLANETOID!

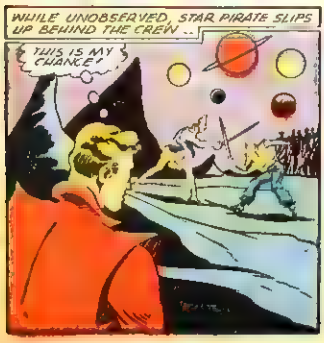

TRUDY I'M GOING TO SEE MULELA AND TRY TO STRIKE A BARGAIN WITH HIM! BUT DON'T LET HIM TAKE NISTA AND SIR GAYDA ALIVE!
I'LL KILL THEM MYSELF BEFORE I LET THEM FALL IN HIS HANDS! GOOD LUCK!

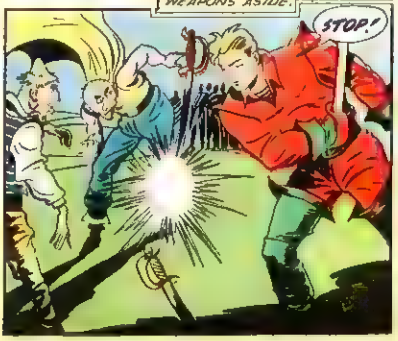
CREEPING OVER THE WASTE LAND, STAR PIRATE LOOKS DOWN ON A STRANGE, HARD CREW
MULELA IS DEAD! WHO WILL TAKE HIS PLACE?
WE'RE BURYING THE BEST SKIPPER WHO EVER FLEW THE JOLLY ROGER!
MIKA, THAT'S ME! I'LL PILOT THE BLOODY ROVER!

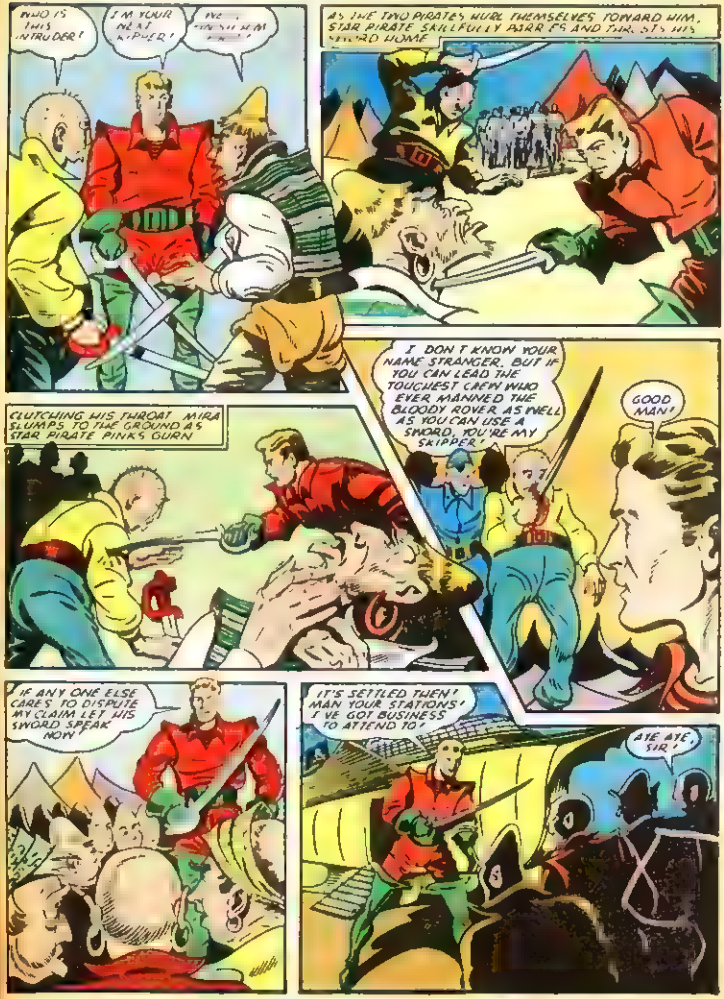
I, GURN, AM THE MAN TO FILL MULELA'S BOOTS!

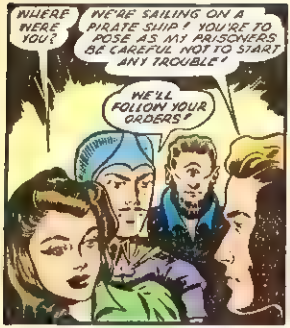

MY SWORD WILL PROVE MY POINT!
DRAW, GURN! WE'LL SETTLE IT NOW!

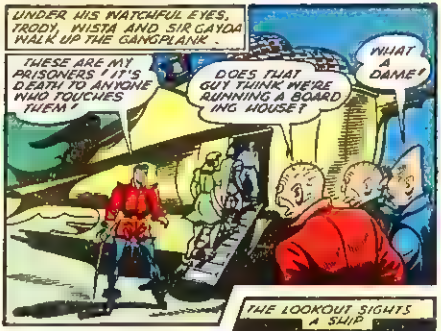
SNARLING LIKE TIGERS, THE TWO FACE EACH OTHER..

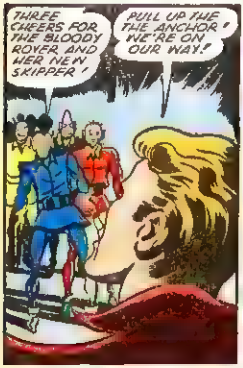

WHILE UNOBSERVED, STAR PIRATE SLIPS UP BEHIND THE CREW..
THIS IS MY CHANCE!

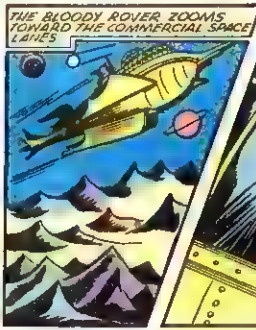

AND LEAPING BETWEEN THE OPPONENTS KNOCKS THEIR WEAPONS ASIDE!
STOP!

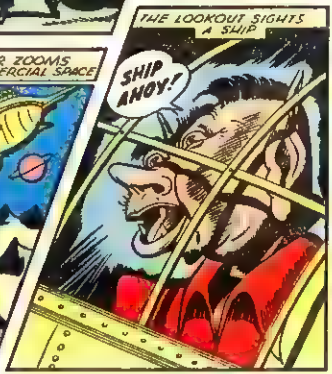

WHO IS THIS INTRUDER!
I'M YOUR NEXT KIPPER!
AS THE TWO PIRATES HURL THEMSELVES TOWARD HIM, STAR PIRATE SKILLFULLY PARRIES AND THRUSTS HIS SWORD HOME
I DON'T KNOW YOUR NAME STRANGER, BUT IF YOU CAN LEAD THE TOUGHEST CREW WHO EVER MANNED THE BLOODY ROVER AS WELL AS YOU CAN USE A SWORD, YOU'RE MY SKIPPER!
GOOD, MAN!
CLUTCHING HIS THROAT MIRA SLUMPS TO THE GROUND AS STAR PIRATE PINKS GURN
IF ANY ONE ELSE CARES TO DISPUTE MY CLAIM LET HIS SWORD SPEAK NOW
IT'S SETTLED THEN! MAN YOUR STATIONS! I'VE GOT BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO!
AYE AYE, SIR!

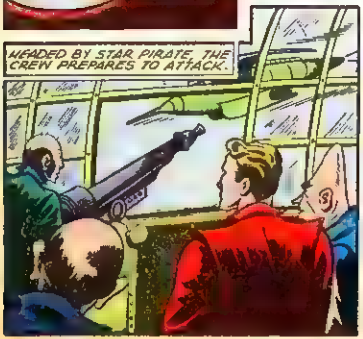

WHERE WERE YOU?
WE'RE SAILING ON A PIRATE SHIP! YOU'RE TO POSE AS MY PRISONERS. BE CAREFUL NOT TO START ANY TROUBLE!
WE'LL FOLLOW YOUR ORDERS!

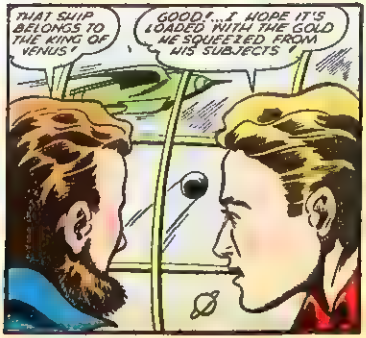

UNDER HIS WATCHFUL EYES, TRODY, WISTA AND SIR GAYDA WALK UP THE GANGPLANK.
THESE ARE MY PRISONERS! IT'S DEATH TO ANYONE WHO TOUCHES THEM!
DOES THAT GUY THINK WE'RE RUNNING A BOARDING HOUSE?
WHAT A DAME!

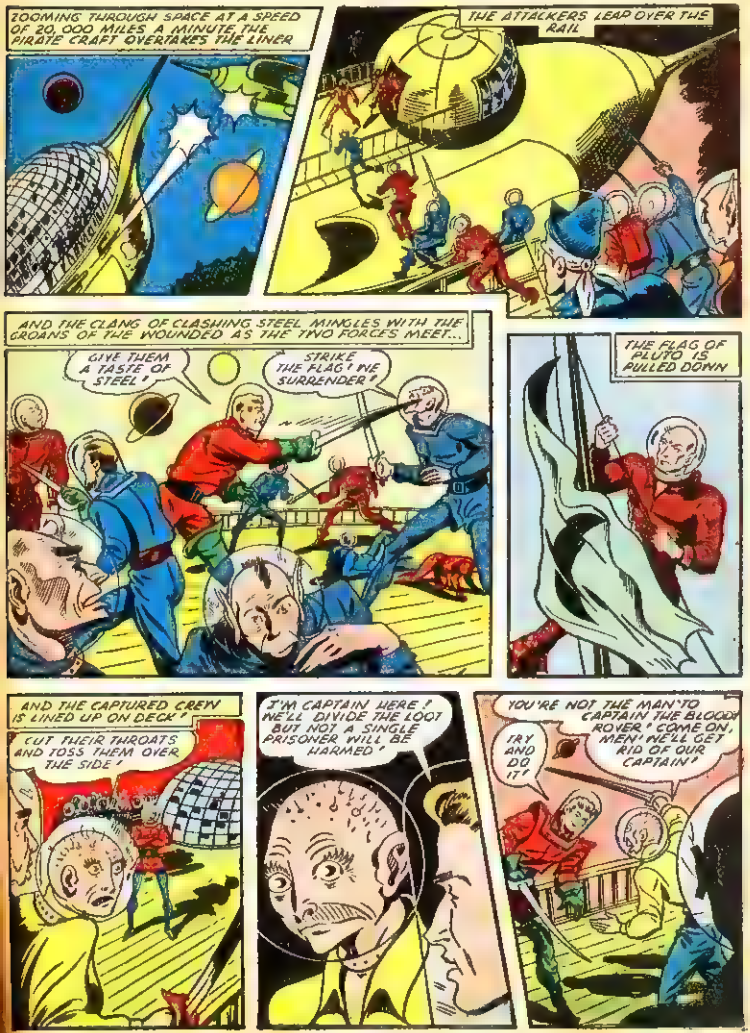

THREE CHEERS FOR THE BLOODY ROVER AND HER NEW SKIPPER!
PULL UP THE ANCHOR! WE'RE ON OUR WAY!


THE BLOODY ROVER ZOOMS TOWARD THE COMMERCIAL SPACE LANES


THE LOOKOUT SIGHTS A SHIP
SHIP AHOY!


HEADED BY STAR PIRATE, THE CREW PREPARES TO ATTACK.


THAT SHIP BELONGS TO THE KING OF VENUS!
GOOD!... I HOPE IT'S LOADED WITH THE GOLD HE SQUEEZED FROM HIS SUBJECTS!


ZOOMING THROUGH SPACE AT A SPEED OF 20,000 MILES A MINUTE THE PIRATE CRAFT OVERTAKES THE LINER
THE ATTACKERS LEAP OVER THE RAIL
AND THE CLANG OF CLASHING STEEL MINGLES WITH THE GROANS OF THE WOUNDED AS THE TWO FORCES MEET...
GIVE THEM A TASTE OF STEEL!
STRIKE THE FLAG! WE SURRENDER!
THE FLAG OF PLUTO IS PULLED DOWN
AND THE CAPTURED CREW IS LINED UP ON DECK!
CUT THEIR THROATS AND TOSS THEM OVER THE SIDE!
I'M CAPTAIN HERE! WE'LL DIVIDE THE LOOT BUT NOT A SINGLE PRISONER WILL BE HARMED!
YOU'RE NOT THE MAN TO CAPTAIN THE BLOODY ROVER! COME ON, MEN! WE'LL GET RID OF OUR CAPTAIN!
TRY AND DO IT!

STANDING SHOULDER TO SHOULDER STAR PIRATE, TRODY AND SIR GAYDA MEET THE ATTACK OF THE BLOODY CREW
STAND FIRM!
WE'LL FIGHT TILL WE DIE!
CUT 'EM DOWN.
PERHAPS I CAN SUMMON THE SPACE PATROL!
ANSWERING THE CALL, THE SPACE PATROL SHIPS ZOOM TO ANSWER THE CALL
AND QUICKLY OVER-POWER THE PIRATE CREW
HANDS UP, EVERYBODY! IT'S SKY PIRATE!
SNEAKING BELOW DECKS, LISTA CALLS THE SPACE PATROL
CALLING SPACE PATROL! PIRATE ATTACK ON COMMERCIAL CRAFT ON MARS-VENUS LANE, TO POINT OF THE ELLIPTIC.
SKY PIRATE AND THE CREW OF CUT THROATS ARE SENTENCED TO BE HANGED.
FROM NOW ON THE SPACE LANES WILL BE FREE OF THESE DEVILS. THE KING OF PLUTO WILL BLESS THIS DAY!
SUDDENLY, SIR GAYDA STEPS FORWARD
I AM THE KING OF PLUTO! I PARDON SKY PIRATE AND TRODY! HEREAFTER I'LL STOP TAXING MY SUBJECTS!
THE KING OF PLUTO! GOSH, WHAT A NARROW ESCAPE!
SKY PIRATE AND TRODY CONTINUE THEIR ROBIN HOOD ADVENTURES IN NEXT ISSUE OF
PLANET COMICS!

Flint BAKER

by HARLEY HALDANE

MURDEROUS INTRIGUE VIA THE MILKY WAY SETS A TRAP FOR EARTH'S ACE PLANET SCOUT, FLINT BAKER. BUT RATHER THAN DIE WITH THE STIGMA OF A TRAITOR, FLINT CALLS A KILLER'S BLUFF AND FACES THE LOCUST MEN'S ARMADA ALONE!

FLINT IS CALLED IN BY COLONEL STONE AT THE SECRET SERVICE BUREAU OF NEW YORK'S SPACE PORT

JUST GOT A FLASH FROM THE SPACE PATROL AXTUR THE MILKY WAY GUERRILLA CHIEF PLANS TO RAID OUR OUTPOST ON SATURN TO CUT OUR INTER-PLANETARY DEFENSE LINE

I'LL TRY TO STOP 'EM CHIEF!

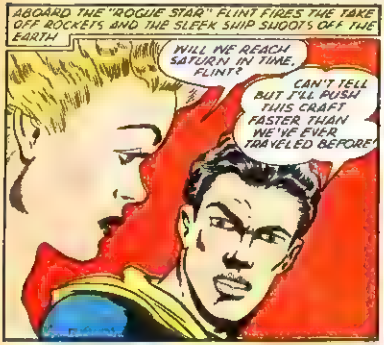
FLINT! AN ENEMY SHIP!

WHIRLING AT MIMI'S ALARM, HE RUSHES OUTSIDE

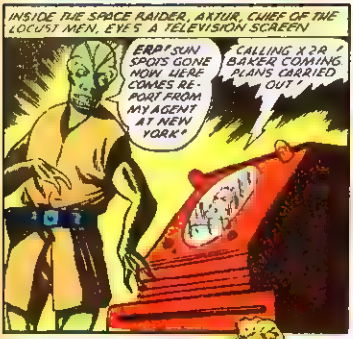
LOOK OUT FLINT!

GET BACK! IT'S GOING TO LAND!

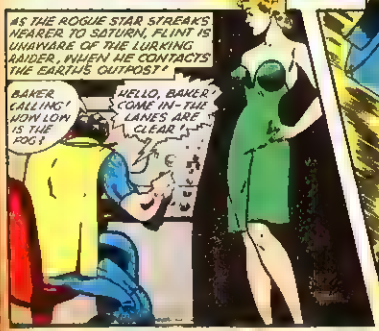
GREAT MOONS! A CRASH LANDING!
SOMETHING'S COCKEYED HERE THAT'S ONE OF AXTUR'S RAIDERS!
TO THEIR AMAZEMENT, AN EARTHMAN STAGGERS FROM THE HATCH!
WHAT HAPPENED, CHUM?
I-I ESCAPED FROM AXTUR'S HIDEOUT IN THE MILKY WAY!
NO CUTS OR BRUISES BUT YOU MAY HAVE INTERNAL INJURIES I'LL GET THE CRASH DOCTOR!
HURRY! AXTUR'S LOOTS MEN ARE GOING TO RAID THE SATURN OUTPOST IF HE CAPTURES IT!
THAT CHECKS WITH THE RADIO REPORT JUST RECEIVED!
THE CRASH DOCTOR JOINS THEM...
HE'S SUFFERING FROM SHOCK I'LL TAKE HIM TO THE FIRST AID STATION!
OKAY, DOC! MIMI, WARM UP MY SHIP WHILE I REPORT TO COLONEL STONE!
RIGHT, FLINT!
FLINT DASHES BACK TO THE SECRET SERVICE CHIEF
EARTHMAN IN ONE OF AXTUR'S SHIPS! HE CONFIRMS THE SCHEME!
AND I JUST FOUND THAT WE CAN'T WARN THE OUTPOST SUN SPOTS INTERFERE WITH OUR RADIO. I HOPE YOU CAN GET TO SATURN IN TIME TO WARN OUR MEN, FLINT!
AS THE CRACK PLANET SCOUT RUNS OUT TO BOARD HIS SHIP, HE FAILS TO SEE A FIGURE IN THE SHADOWS
HOLY COMETS! I HAVEN'T A MOMENT TO SPARE!
HEH HEH!

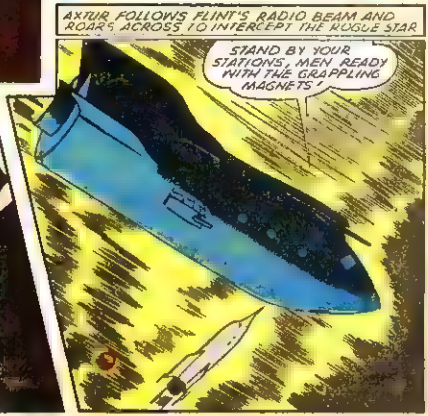

ABOARD THE "ROGUE STAR" FLINT FIRES THE TAKE OFF ROCKETS AND THE SLEEK SHIP SHOOTS OFF THE EARTH
WILL WE REACH SATURN IN TIME, FLINT?
CAN'T TELL BUT I'LL PUSH THIS CRAFT FASTER THAN WE'VE EVER TRAVELED BEFORE!

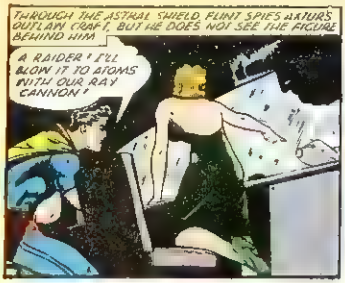
MEANWHILE AXTUR'S FLAGSHIP DRIFTS ALONE IN THE FIRST RING OF SATURN..

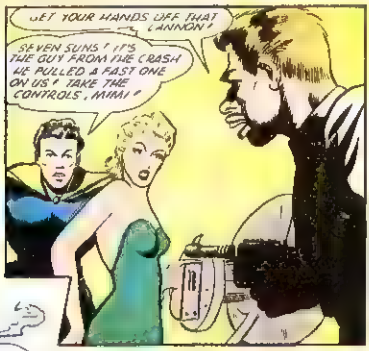

INSIDE THE SPACE RAIDER, AXTUR, CHIEF OF THE LOCUST MEN, EYES A TELEVISION SCREEN
ERP! SUN SPOTS GONE NOW HERE COMES REPORT FROM MY AGENT AT NEW YORK!
CALLING X 2 R ! BAKER COMING PLANS CARRIED OUT !

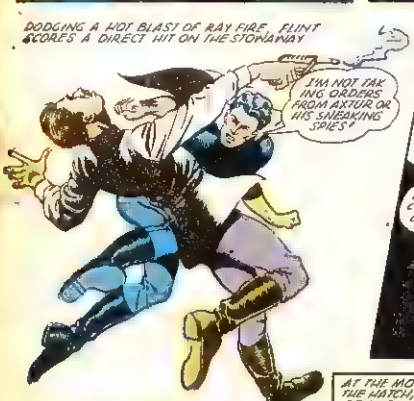
ERP! GOOD! I'LL PICK UP FLINT BAKER'S RADIO BEAM AND TRAP HIM AS HE ROCKETS THROUGH THE RING!


AS THE ROGUE STAR STREAKS NEARER TO SATURN, FLINT IS UNAWARE OF THE LURKING RAIDER, WHEN HE CONTACTS THE EARTH'S OUTPOST!
BAKER CALLING! HOW LOW IS THE FOG?
HELLO, BAKER! COME IN- THE LANES ARE CLEAR!

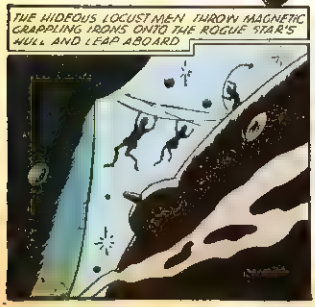

AXTUR FOLLOWS FLINT'S RADIO BEAM AND ROARS ACROSS TO INTERCEPT THE ROGUE STAR
STAND BY YOUR STATIONS, MEN READY WITH THE GRAPPLING MAGNETS!


THROUGH THE ASTRAL SHIELD, FLINT SPIES AXTUR'S OUTLAW CRAFT, BUT HE DOES NOT SEE THE FIGURE BEHIND HIM
A RAIDER! I'LL BLOW IT TO ATOMS WITH OUR RAY CANNON!

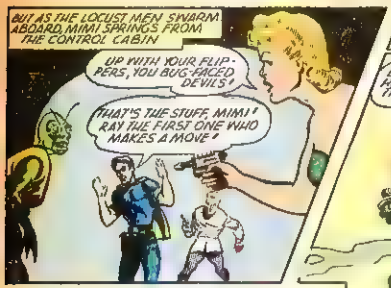

GET YOUR HANDS OFF THAT CANNON!
SEVEN SUNS! IT'S THE GUY FROM THE CRASH HE PULLED A FAST ONE ON US! TAKE THE CONTROLS, MIMI!

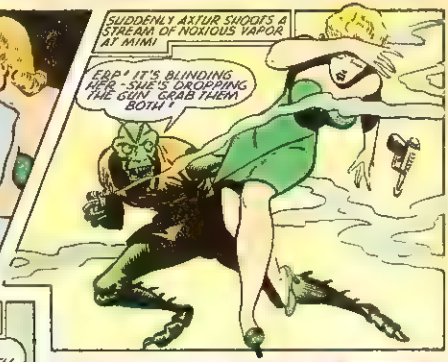

DODGING A HOT BLAST OF RAY FIRE, FLINT SCORES A DIRECT HIT ON THE STOWAWAY
I'M NOT TAKING ORDERS FROM AXTUR OR HIS SNEAKING SPIES!

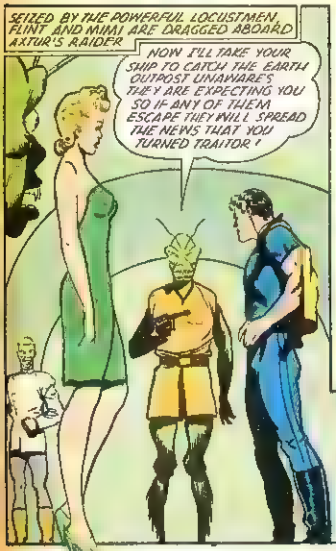
SUDDENLY
FLINT! THE RAIDER IS PULLING ALONGSIDE! I CAN'T TURN THE CANNON ON IT!
THAT MEANS THEY'RE COMING ABOARD TO CAPTURE US! LET 'EM TRY IT!

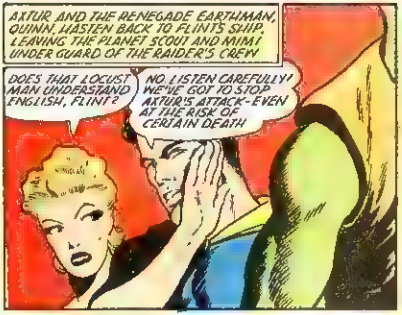

THE HIDEOUS LOCUST-MEN THROW MAGNETIC GRAPPLING IRONS ONTO THE ROGUE STAR'S HULL AND LEAP ABOARD

AT THE MOMENT AXTUR COMES THROUGH THE HATCH, FLINT IS TRIPPED FROM BEHIND
GREAT MOONS! UNLESS I CAN RAY THAT OGRE, WE'RE SUNK!
ERP! QUICK WORK, QUINN!
GRAB HIM, AXTUR!

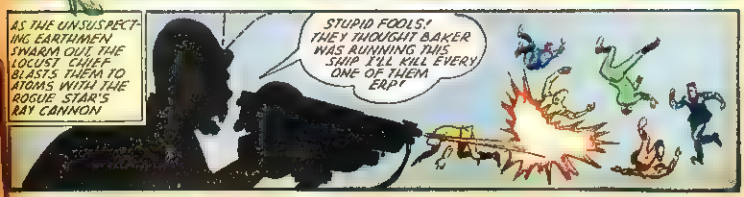

BUT AS THE LOCUST MEN SWARM ABOARD, MIMI SPRINGS FROM THE CONTROL CABIN
UP WITH YOUR FLIPPERS, YOU BUG-FACED DEVILS!
THAT'S THE STUFF, MIMI! RAY THE FIRST ONE WHO MAKES A MOVE!


SUDDENLY AXTUR SHOOTS A STREAM OF NOXIOUS VAPOR AT MIMI
ERP! IT'S BLINDING HER - SHE'S DROPPING THE GUN - GRAB THEM BOTH!

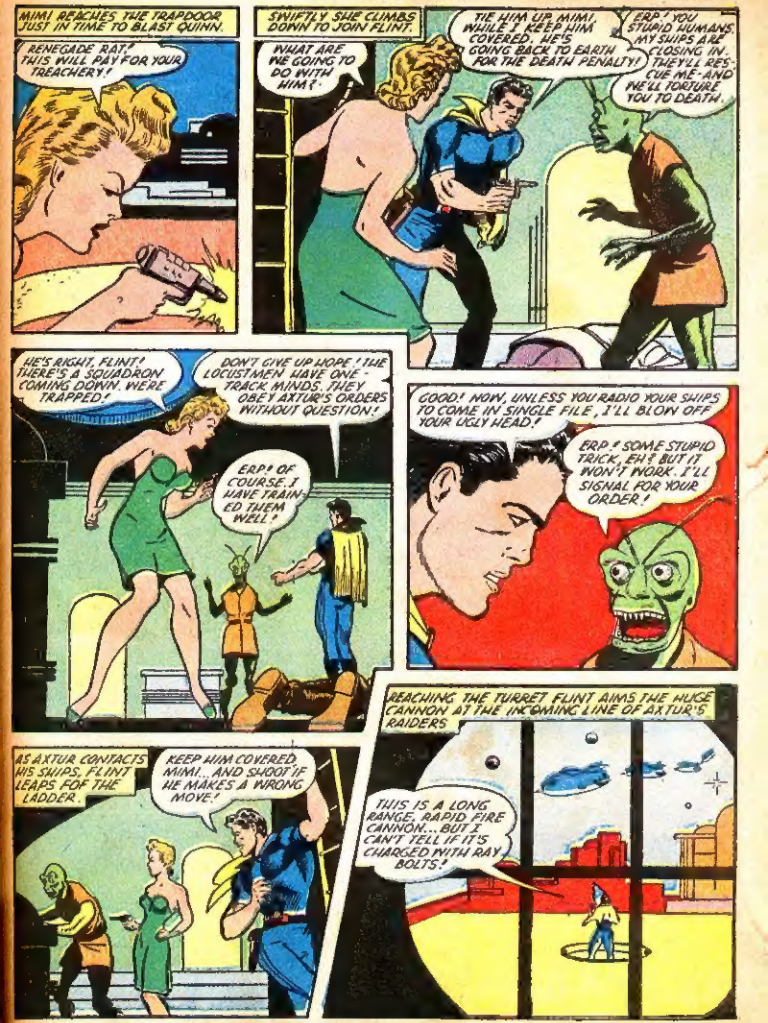

SEIZED BY THE POWERFUL LOCUSTMEN, FLINT AND MIMI ARE DRAGGED ABOARD AXTUR'S RAIDER
NOW I'LL TAKE YOUR SHIP TO CATCH THE EARTH OUTPOST UNAWARES! THEY ARE EXPECTING YOU SO IF ANY OF THEM ESCAPE THEY WILL SPREAD THE NEWS THAT YOU TURNED TRAITOR!


AXTUR AND THE RENEGADE EARTHMAN, QUINN, HASTEN BACK TO FLINT'S SHIP, LEAVING THE PLANET SCOUT AND MIMI UNDER GUARD OF THE RAIDER'S CREW
DOES THAT LOCUST MAN UNDERSTAND ENGLISH, FLINT?
NO, LISTEN CAREFULLY! WE'VE GOT TO STOP AXTUR'S ATTACK - EVEN AT THE RISK OF CERTAIN DEATH!

MEANWHILE AXTUR AND QUINN SWOOP DOWN ON THE OUTPOST IN THE ROGUE STAR


AS THE UNSUSPECTING EARTHMEN SWARM OUT, THE LOCUST CHIEF BLASTS THEM TO ATOMS WITH THE ROGUE STAR'S RAY CANNON
STUPID FOOLS! THEY THOUGHT BAKER WAS RUNNING THIS SHIP! I'LL KILL EVERY ONE OF THEM ERP!

MEANWHILE ABOARD THE RAIDER FLINT IS SWIFT TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE LOCUST MEN'S EXCITEMENT
AXTUR SMASHED THE OUTPOST, DID HE? SO I'LL SMASH YOU!
ERP!
AS A HIDEOUS CREATURE LUNGES AT MIMI, FLINT SNATCHES A RAY PISTOL FROM HIS VICTIM AND SNAPS A FAST SHOT
GET YOUR CLAWS OFF ME - YOU INSECT!
ERP-OOH!
I NAILED HIM, MIMI! GRAB THE GUN FROM HIS BELT!
I'VE GOT IT, FLINT! BURN DOWN EVERY ONE OF THE DEMONS!
CHECK! AND WHEN THE LAST ONE'S DOWN I'LL TAKE THE CONTROLS AND DROP THIS SHIP TO THE OUTPOST
A FEW MINUTES LATER FLINT PULLS UP THE RAIDER ALONGSIDE THE OUTPOST.
IN A FLASH HE LEAPS FROM THE ASTRAL HATCH TO THE ROOF
LET'S GO! AXTUR MUST BE INSIDE. WE'LL SURPRISE HIM!
FLINT PAUSES AT THE TRAPDOOR FROM THE CANNON TURRET
HE'S CONTACTING HIS FLEET!
"ALL CLEAR! I'M IN COMPLETE CONTROL. BRING IN YOUR SHIPS AT ONCE."
SUDDENLY..
AXTUR! LOOK OUT! BAKER IS DROPPING FROM THE TRAPDOOR!
NOW YOU'LL TAKE ORDERS FROM ME!
ERP!


MIMI REACHES THE TRAPDOOR JUST IN TIME TO BLAST QUINN.
RENEGADE RAT! THIS WILL PAY FOR YOUR TREACHERY!
SWIFTLY SHE CLIMBS DOWN TO JOIN FLINT.
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITH HIM?
TIE HIM UP, MIMI, WHILE I KEEP HIM COVERED. HE'S GOING BACK TO EARTH FOR THE DEATH PENALTY!
ERP! YOU STUPID HUMANS. MY SHIPS ARE CLOSING IN. THEY'LL RESCUE ME—AND WE'LL TORTURE YOU TO DEATH.
HE'S RIGHT, FLINT! THERE'S A SQUADRON COMING DOWN. WE'RE TRAPPED!
DON'T GIVE UP HOPE! THE LOCUSTMEN HAVE ONE-TRACK MINDS. THEY OBEY AXTUR'S ORDERS WITHOUT QUESTION!
ERP! OF COURSE. I HAVE TRAINED THEM WELL!
GOOD! NOW, UNLESS YOU RADIO YOUR SHIPS TO COME IN SINGLE FILE, I'LL BLOW OFF YOUR UGLY HEAD!
ERP! SOME STUPID TRICK! EH? BUT IT WON'T WORK. I'LL SIGNAL FOR YOUR ORDER!
AS AXTUR CONTACTS HIS SHIPS, FLINT LEAPS FOR THE LADDER.
KEEP HIM COVERED, MIMI.. AND SHOOT IF HE MAKES A WRONG MOVE!
REACHING THE TURRET FLINT AIMS THE HUGE CANNON AT THE INCOMING LINE OF AXTUR'S RAIDERS
THIS IS A LONG RANGE, RAPID FIRE CANNON... BUT I CAN'T TELL IF IT'S CHARGED WITH RAY BOLTS!

FLINT FINDS THE CANNON FULLY LOADED - FIRING TEN RAYS PER SECOND. IT TURNS THE LINE OF RAIDERS INTO BLAZING ATOMS
HEARING THE EXPLOSIONS AXTUR PRETENDS TO BE CRUSHED BY DEFEAT.
I'M NOT BEATEN YET! THE MOMENT THAT WOMAN TURNS, I'LL GRAB HER!
SUDDENLY MIMI IS CAUGHT OFF GUARD.
I'VE GOT YOUR GUN! IF YOU RESIST, I'LL KILL YOU. NOW, COME OUTSIDE!
SWIFTLY HE FORCES HER OUT TOWARD FLINT'S SHIP.
I CAN ESCAPE BELOW THE CANNON'S RANGE. IF BAKER SHOWS HIMSELF, I'LL SMASH HIM TO DUST!
RAMMING THE RAY PISTOL IN MIMI'S BACK, AXTUR PUSHES HER INTO THE ROGUE STAR...
NOT ONE CHANCE IN A THOUSAND TO ESCAPE! FLINT MUST HAVE BEEN RAYED TO DEATH!
ERP! THIS IS A GREAT JOKE ON THAT FOOL EARTHMAN!
SUDDENLY... FLINT SPRINGS FROM INSIDE CATCHING AXTUR COMPLETELY UNAWARE.
BUT THE LAST LAUGH'S ON YOU, LOCUST PUSS!
ERP!
DAZED BY THE BLOW, AXTUR SLUMPS AGAINST THE BULKHEAD.
H-HOW DID YOU GET ABOARD FIRST?
DOWN THE OUTSIDE LADDER FROM THE CANNON TURRET. NOW I'M TAKING YOU TO EARTH AS PROOF THAT YOUR REIGN OF TERROR IS OVER!
WITH AXTUR IN IRONS, FLINT ZOOMS THE ROGUE STAR AWAY FROM SATURN...
LANDING AT THE NEW YORK SKYPORT THEY TURN AXTUR OVER TO THE SECRET SERVICE CHIEF...
YOU RECEIVED OUR FULL REPORT BY RADIO, CHIEF. NOW HERE'S THE CULPRIT. ANYTHING HAPPEN WHILE WE WERE GONE?
HMM-NO. ONLY THE CRASH DOCTOR ACCIDENTALLY KILLED HIMSELF WHILE CLEANING HIS RAY PISTOL. OF COURSE, IT MUST HAVE BEEN SUICIDE!
ERP!
Buy WAR BONDS AND STAMPS
FOR VICTORY
EARTH'S ACE PLANET SCOUT, FLINT BAKER, ROCKETS ACROSS SPACE TO FIND NEW ADVENTURES IN THE NEXT PLANET COMICS!

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